

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LIII.]

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BIRTHS.

On the 29th December, 1900, at Shanghai, the wife of FRED. W. GODSIL, I. M. Customs, of a son.

On the 30th December, 1900, at Rusholme, Chelsoo, the wife of Mr. A. ERNEST GREENING, English Baptist Mission, Shantung, of a daughter.

On the 31st December, 1900, at Shanghai, the wife of T. E. DUNN, of a daughter.

On the 31st December, 1900, at her residence, 1, West End Lane, Shanghai, the wife of FRANK GRAY, of a daughter.

At Nanyang College, Sicawei Road, Shanghai, on New Year's Day, the wife of John C. FERGUSON, of a son.

On the 1st January, 1901, at 8, Quinsan Road, Shanghai, the wife of C. W. DE BERIGNY, I. M. Customs, of a daughter.

At Shanghai, on the 2nd January, 1901, the wife of PAUL O'BRIEN TWIGG, of a daughter.

On the 7th January, at No. 9, Morrison Hill Road, the wife of PATRICK H. MURRAY, Royal Dutch Petroleum Co., of a daughter.

DEATHS.

On the 20th November, 1900, at Melbourne, Australia, of insomnia, THOMAS, the dearly beloved husband of Elizabeth A. BLANEY, late of this city, and Punjom Mine Manager, aged 58 years.

On the 24th November, 1900, at Mainz (Germany), RICHARD GENZ, late of Wuchang.

On the 28th December, 1900, at "Aulderwood," No. 1, Yangtszepoo Road, Shanghai, GEORGE PEEBLES, aged 52 years.

At Kobe, on the 30th December, ISAAC WILLARD BRAUCHAMP, born at Boston, Mass., 21st August, 1845.

On the 3rd January, 1901, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, WILLIAM RUMBOLD, aged 36 years.

THE

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The German mail of the 28th November arrived, per N.D.L. steamer *Hamburg*, on the 11th January (44 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Russian Government has stated in an official communication that it is intended to continue the Trans-Siberian Railway along the Shilka and upper Amur rivers.

Mr. Conger has telegraphed to Washington that no progress is now possible with peace negotiations until a successor has been appointed to Li Hung-chang's post, the latter appearing permanently incapacitated by illness.

The Chinese Government having requested Count von Waldersee to stop now the Allied expeditions in North China, the Count has replied that the expeditions are purely for the protection of life and property, and are not of a punitive character.

It is reported from Seoul under date of the 27th ultimo, that the demand of the French Minister for the railway concession between Seoul and Gensan has been rejected by the Korean Government, on the ground that the said concession had been already granted to a Korean syndicate.

Berlin despatches are stated to tend to confirm the report that Count von Waldersee has declined to accept the Russian proposal to hand over the North China Railway before England's consent has been given. From Shanghai it is reported that the Shanhaikwan Railway will be transferred to Mr. Kinder on the 14th inst.

According to an Havas telegram of the 2nd inst., a French gunboat has left a place, the name of which is given as Koin, on the West River, to protect the Roman Catholics and collect the indemnity due to the victims of the recent disturbances. This appears to be yet another instance of independent exaction of indemnity which should be left for the final settlement of all the Powers.

In reply to the invitation of the Unofficial Members of the Hongkong Legislative Council, through H. E. the Governor, that their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York should visit Hongkong either on their way to the Commonwealth celebrations in Australia or on their return home, a reply has been received that the Duke of York regrets that the arrangements of his tour preclude such a visit.

On the outbreak of the trouble in North China a large number of Japanese coolies were engaged by the allied armies for transport work. Peace and order having been restored to some extent, it is now reported that the allied commanders are replacing the Japanese by Chinese coolies on account of the cheapness of the latter. The change will be effected shortly and the Japanese will return home.

A Tokyo telegram reports that Lieut. General Baron Kodama, Governor-General of Formosa, was appointed Minister of the Army in place of Field-Marshal Viscount Katsura, who resigned on account of ill health.

By the modified arrangement of the French colonial army, Tonkin is to have eight batteries of artillery, and Cochin-China six. The infantry is to remain practically unchanged, being considered as up to the requirements of defence.

A London telegram of the 4th inst. states that the Chinese Government, while accepting the terms imposed by the Powers, says that immediate compliance with them is impossible. A telegram of the 6th inst. says that the Ministers of the Powers have demanded the affixing of the Imperial Seal to the acceptance of the Joint Note. Yesterday a Peking rumour was reported to the effect that the Emperor "for a second time" refused to sanction the terms.

From St. Petersburg comes the statement that the Minister of Finance has accorded the Russo-Chinese Bank and all its branches in East Siberia the specially valuable privilege of the free purchase of gold dust and nuggets, without demanding from the seller any proof of origin. Up to the present this purchase of gold has been strictly prohibited by the Russian Government, and the concession is intended to paralyse the secret sale of this gold to other countries.

Dr. Morrison telegraphed to the *Times* last week the text of an agreement between the Tartar General at Moukden and the Russian authorities, amounting to the formal establishment of a Russian protectorate over Moukden and Fengtien. Washington despatches, however, state that Count Cassini has voluntarily given explicit assurances that no treaty has been concluded between Russia and China which alters Russia's declarations that she has no designs of returning any part of Manchuria.

The transport *Burnside*, which arrived from New York recently with 400 miles of wire, will proceed south in a few days, says a Manila paper just to hand, where she will proceed to connect the different island points by cable. It is understood that she will proceed to Cebu and work on cable extension to Misamis, Mindanao, and from there overland to Zamboanga, from that point to Isabela, thence to Jolo and from there to Bongao. This system will also include Iloilo and Negros, and a main cable will be laid to Manila, so that every important point in the south will be placed in close communication with Manila.

It is stated in Shanghai, in reference to the illegal arrest in the Settlement of a Chinaman named Kung Chao, the Taotai has asked for proof that he was arrested within the Settlement limits. With regard to the prisoner, the *N.-C. Daily News* understands that so far from being a dangerous conspirator, Kung Chao is a young student who has not long left Chang Chih-tung's College at Wuchang, and he was arrested in the hope that he would give up the names and addresses of friends of his who are suspected of harbouring revolutionary designs. The *N.-C. Daily News* understands that the Committee of the China Association have telegraphed to London regarding the recent case of illegal arrest in the Settlement, urging that the regulations regarding arrests which have been established after long experience should be maintained.

CHINA AND THE DEMANDS OF THE POWERS.

(Daily Press, 7th January.)

The unqualified acceptance of the terms proposed by the Powers, while it may be taken as the first, and it is to be hoped most important, step towards a settlement of the difficulties which China has brought on herself, can only be looked upon in the light of a preliminary towards the peace eventually to follow. Before the parties to an agreement can begin to settle the terms there are manifestly things to be done in order to bring about a common ground for discussion; and that is the point at which affairs have now arrived. Henceforward both parties will be in a position to discuss the *pros* and *cons* of any scheme proposed, while up to this there has been no common ground admitting of discussion. Looking at the whole affair from beginning to end, there is nothing in the requirements which have been laid down beyond those ordinary rules which direct the intercourse of civilised nations; and it was merely the breach of these universally accepted rules of conduct that rendered necessary their imposition in the form set out by all the Powers. Had, in fact, any other nation done as China has done, she would in turn have had to submit to stipulations of exactly the same nature and degree. In this respect there is nothing humiliating to China in the acceptance of the code; the humiliation rather consisted in her having permitted herself to be led away by the ideas of a few ignorant guides into supposing that there was really any essential difference between her own position as regards the nations, and their position as regards her. Historically nations have before this laid claim to some such exclusive rights. The Roman Emperors at one period doubtless aimed at exclusive sovereignty; but the attempt to exercise it led to the loss of her legion under VARUS, and her forced withdrawal from Asia beyond the Euphrates. The successors of the Roman Empire at Constantinople attempted to exercise some such in the affairs of the East, and had to pay the penalty claim in the loss of their capital, and the entire destruction of their Empire at the hands of the Ottoman power. The Turk himself assumed the rôle of the Sublime Porte, and had to pay the penalty of becoming the dependent of the Powers of western Europe. The lesson learnt has not been forgotten, and the consequence has been the establishment of an international comity, which for ever forbids the assumption by one nation of any innate superiority over its fellows, and teaches each to respect its neighbours. Of course it is not pretended that all nations are equal to power nor in influence. In the councils of the world, for instance, Russia counts for far more than Holland, but this is not held by the nations at large to justify an attempt to assume any air of superiority in her diplomatic relations; and an outrage offered by the government of the Tsar to that of the weakest of the European Powers would certainly be regarded as an insult to all. In the same manner China's right to play the part of an independent state would never have been called in question by the other Powers, had she been content to exercise that independence in a way consonant with those principles which experience has taught the general comity to regard as binding rules. When, however, China arrogantly set herself up as the arbiter of international amenities, and attempted to pose as above her fellows in her international relations, the very attempt was an insult to all and each, which

it is well to remember would have been resented, even if the result had been less tragic. The truculence of China's action has enhanced the penalty she has had to pay, but it has not affected the principle concerned, and hence it is that the infliction of the penalty has not been left to any one Power, but has been inflicted by all in concert. For six months China has been an outlaw; she has now been permitted to purge herself from the penalty of her contempt, but this by no means is to be taken to imply that all China's difficulties are ended, or that she is to be at liberty to adopt a similar attitude in future. Rather will the nations interpret her enforced submission as a late admission of the inevitable. If she have good sense enough to comprehend this, she will find every assistance given her to replace herself on her former footing. Should she, however, fail to comprehend these easy conditions, she will find herself at the mercy of the first nation powerful enough to strike. Revenge has formed no part of the programme of the terms offered, but the simple desire in the interests of China, quite as much as of the other Powers, to shield her from the direct effect of those dangers which she has ignorantly brought upon herself. This is the lesson which we still fear her statesmen have failed to comprehend; and we would rather that China should be brought to understand them of her own inner consciousness than that a failure in assimilating the lesson should again bring her into unpleasant conflict with the coercive forces of modern civilisation.

BRITISH REPRESENTATION AT PEKING.

(Daily Press, 10th January.)

Some time ago we had occasion to remark that strenuous efforts must be made in order to force the Government to inaugurate and carry out a policy in support of legitimate British interests in China. This is a policy which can only be brought into being if backed by the force of strong public opinion at home; and it is a policy which the appointment of Sir ERNEST SATOW as Minister at Peking gives no guarantee will be adopted and pursued. The first of these has long been a self-evident proposition to those who have witnessed the apathy of the government in things Chinese during the last twenty-five years. The other—based on the feeling that one of our strongest and most capable statesmen is needed to meet the situation, a statesman more particularly who will be free from those leanings towards Orientalism which are the marked characteristic of men having long and intimate dealings with Eastern races—has received curious confirmation from various sources during the past few months. Sir ERNEST SATOW, we are told, is most anxious to avoid upsetting the susceptibilities of the Imperial Court on their return to Peking. No doubt this is a very laudable and humane motive, but it can be carried to such an extent as to become ludicrous, and what is of more importance, a source of danger, from the fact that it will surely be interpreted by the Chinese themselves as a sign of weakness. The British are in occupation of certain buildings formerly used by the members of the Court. These buildings are of the imperial colour, and the fear that the sight of these inhabited by the "barbarian" may upset the Court, when and if it returns, appears to be a grave and serious reason to our Minister for either evacuating them or at least removing such evidences of their former imperial use as may serve to save the face of the Chinese. This, trivial in itself,

will serve to show, as the proverbial straw does, which way the wind blows, and British residents in the East, long and painfully familiar with the class of statesmen whose object is, firstly the interests of the Chinese, and secondly, and then only when it cannot be avoided, the interest of their own nationals, will have no difficulty in filling in the line of policy likely to be pursued.

We are not, however, concerned so much with the immediate negotiations as with the future. It is pretty safe to say that the demands of the Powers were formulated in the Foreign Offices of the various countries and being agreed upon will be enforced and necessarily accepted by China. They are, from the nature of things, of a general nature and can be made comprehensive or not, according to the interpretation that is put on them after their acceptance; and when the time comes for carrying them out in detail, more particularly will this be the case with regard to the eleventh clause of the Joint Note, which calls for the inauguration of some arrangements for dealing with the commerce of China. The Chinese can be relied upon with their usual shortsightedness to oppose, in the execution, any attempt at opening the country generally to trade, at placing their system of collecting revenue on an equitable basis, or, in a word, at reorganising their finances. They will, as in the past, accept these in the abstract readily enough; they will sign and agree to anything if they can only persuade the "foreign devil" to take himself, his agreement, and more especially his troops, home again. Anyone of average intelligence is capable of presenting this agreement; the difficulty and the real work will be to get the details carried out. To do this we shall require as a representative a man of iron will, of iron patience, and endowed physically with an iron constitution. The question of interest, of grave interest, for the commercial class of Britain, is: Are we likely to get such a man? Lord SALISBURY has not hitherto shown himself particularly able to realise the greatness of our interests in the Far East nor particularly anxious to protect them, but judging by his recent utterances at the Guildhall, he does seem to have recognised at last that things have not gone quite right lately. A peculiar side-light is thrown on things by his reference to the Empress Dowager as the author of the troubles which have devastated the North of China. When we remember that Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD was a firm believer in the Dowager, that Lady MACDONALD headed a deputation of the ladies of the diplomatic corps to wait on her, that Sir CLAUDE thought the gracious condescension of a semi-civilised Manchu woman, in receiving the deputation, was of sufficient importance to telegraph home—Lord SALISBURY's public recognition of this woman as responsible for the attempted massacre of the inmates of the Legations and the actual murder of hundreds of defenceless men, women, and children throughout the Empire is nothing more or less than a repudiation of the policy of the Minister whom a short time ago he as gravely asked us to accept as a hero on the level of KITCHENER and CROMER. We are not concerned with the question of heroes, however; what we want is a Minister, whose policy will be steady persistence in the maintenance of British commercial interests. Judging by past experience, it may well be conceded that the man who accomplishes it can be called a hero, for nothing more wearing, exasperating and heart-breaking can be encountered by any statesman than is offered by the passive resistance of the Chinese. It broke down Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD in

body and mind. It further, and we say it with regret, misled him with regard to the policy to be adopted. Our sympathies are most sincerely with him in the former case, and we are not without hopes that, guided by the light of experience gained during the siege, he may yet correct the mistakes of the latter. It was decided many months before the siege took place that Sir CLAUDE was to be shifted. When the news leaked out the Foreign Office were much incensed at the fact, as it was felt that it did not accord with Lord SALISBURY's somewhat absurd, if flattering, eulogy. It had to be done, however, and accordingly Sir ERNEST SATOW was appointed to relieve him. There is no great objection to the Foreign Office's appointment for the present, provided they are fully alive to the needs of the future. That they are, at least, somewhat awake to the necessities of the situation is foreshadowed in Lord SALISBURY's speech, and in view of the enormous stake we have in the trade of the Far East we await with interest, not unmixed with anxiety, the next shuffle and deal of the cards of the diplomatic service.

THE I.M.C. AND THE SIEGE OF THE LEGATIONS.

(Daily Press, 8th January.)

In the July-September number of the *Customs Gazette*, published by the Imperial Maritime Customs and now to hand here, there is a very brief account of the siege of the Legations at Peking, which offers a few new details about that exciting period. The account commences with the entry for the 9th June, stating that all the employés, Customs, Postal, and Educational, in accordance with the Inspector General's instructions, left their houses for the Inspectorate General, and that co-operation with the neighbouring Legation guards was arranged for. Four days later the Boxers entered the city, firing chapels and churches, necessitating the redoubling of precautions. On the 19th the Inspector General received a Yamen red letter, informing him that the foreign demand for the surrender of the Taku forts was tantamount to a declaration of war and that therefore twenty-four hours had been given to the foreign representatives in which to quit Peking. To this Sir ROBERT HART sent a reply saying he thought it expedient for the Custodians Staff to accompany the Legations and asking the Yamen to guard the Customs archives. This letter never reached the Yamen, the bearer riding behind Baron von KETTELER and turning back when the latter was shot. On the same day, the 20th June, the Inspectorate was abandoned, and the staff took refuge in the British Legation. "At 4 p.m.," says the account, "firing began and the siege commenced." Then follows a list of the Customs refugees. The progress of the siege is marked by four casualties, including the death of Mr. E. WAGNER on the 1st July. On the 21st of that month came two Yamen red letters, one expressing regret for the burning of the Inspectorate and asking where the Inspector General was, and the other stating that Mr. F. E. TAYLOR, Statistical Secretary, had represented the inconvenience of the Inspector General's absence and proposed to carry on the latter's duties. Sir ROBERT HART was asked what were his wishes with regard to this proposal. To these letters he replied that he and the Staff were in the British Legation, and that his duties could best be carried on by the Shanghai Commissioner and Statistical Secretary conjointly; and a copy of the undelivered note of the 20th June was enclosed. On the 25th July a

Yamen red letter enclosed a telegram from the Shanghai Commissioner sent through SHENG Ta-jen, reporting Shanghai quiet and asking after the Inspector General, etc. On the 27th arrived another red letter, with some vegetables, from the Yamen, and on the 30th another, enclosing a cipher telegram of enquiries from London via Chinanfu. On the 2nd August the report was received of the beheading of the friendly Yamen ministers, HSU CHING-CHENG and YUAN CHANG, which may well have sounded ominous to the besieged. But to compensate for this bad news a note, dated 28th July, from Mr. DREW, Commissioner at Tientsin, came by special messenger through the United States Legation; this announced relief at hand—though, as a matter of fact, owing to various delays, the relief expedition did not start until three days after the receipt of the message. On the 7th August a red letter brought Sir ROBERT HART a message from his family in London, which came through SHENG's hands. On the 10th the report came in of the beheading of two more Yamen ministers HSU YUNG-I and LIEN YUAN. A red letter from the Yamen was received on the 13th, enclosing telegrams from the Commissioners at Shanghai, Hankow, and Chefoo, bearing the dates of the 9th and 10th of the month. On the 14th August the siege was at an end, but three days afterwards the Yamen sent a red letter requesting the Inspector General's advice and intervention. The account concludes with the service movements after the siege.

This record, brief and bald as it is, has its interest. The attitude of the Tsungli Yamen as revealed in it is indeed remarkable, though well in keeping with the general double-dealing of the Court. It is true that some at least of the Yamen were genuinely friendly to foreigners; four of them paid for this with their lives. But the kind enquiries after the Inspector General and Staff on the 21st July, a month after the Customs buildings had been vacated and the siege begun, have an unconscious humour which in the circumstances was unpardonable. The mockery of the professed solicitude of the Chinese Government, through the body delegated to treat with foreigners, confirms to the full the treachery of that Government. The incidents of the siege, as far as the actual fighting is concerned, are hardly touched upon in the account before us. For that reason the few facts recorded stand out well by themselves, unobscured by other details, and set forth not the least remarkable feature of a remarkable affair.

THE FRENCH ON THE WEST RIVER.

(Daily Press, 11th January.)

We recorded yesterday the report, conveyed in a Havas telegram from Paris at the beginning of the year, that a French gunboat was taking steps on the West River to protect the Roman Catholic converts and to collect the indemnity due to the victims of the recent disturbances. Now it must be recognised that the French gunboats have done some excellent service on the waterways which run through Kwangtung province into the sea at Canton. Thanks to French energy in co-operating with the Chinese authorities, much injury was warded off from the life and property of peaceable converts from the anti-Christian ruffians who attempted to take advantage of the weakening of the Imperial forces in the south to plunder their compatriots. Owing to the inadequacy of the British fleet on the China station Britain was powerless to do any-

thing in a region where her interests are very great. France, who for all her pretensions to influence in the Kwang provinces has very little real interest in them, stepped in and did some very necessary work in strengthening the hands of the party of law and order. Recognising this fact fully, we are all the more sorry to hear of a repetition of the mischievous action of the *Comète* in Swatow neighbourhood, which is what is implied by the Havas telegram. The protection of converts, when their lives and property are threatened, is a laudable action, and perhaps a necessary one also if the Chinese Government is unable to protect its own subjects. But the demand for indemnities at this stage of the proceeding is unjust and impolitic, and moreover constitutes a breach of faith with the allies of France in the Chinese question. It is unjust, because the incidence of the penalty is on the wrong people, in a vast majority of cases. It is generally found that the work of destruction is done by wandering bands of rowdies, on the lookout for plunder, not by the regular inhabitants, so that those who have committed the offence are not often those who suffer the punishment. The demand is impolitic, because it tends to inflame the whole neighbourhood against foreigners and Christians and produce the very state of affairs which it professes to punish. Lastly, the demand is a breach of faith, because there is a treaty in course of negotiation which covers this very question of indemnities, and therefore no single Power has the right to extort them independently in any portion of China. We trust that the Paris telegram is incorrect in so far as it states that the demand for compensation forms any part of the action of the French naval authorities on the West River.

MARTIAL LAW IN THE PHILIPPINES.

(Daily Press, 9th January.)

A certain analogy which has been observed between the state of affairs in the Philippine Islands and that in South Africa has, it can hardly be doubted, done much to restrain the sympathisers with the Boers and Filipinos in the United States and the British Empire respectively from showing that sympathy more strongly. The conditions in these two centres of disturbance are now more similar than they have been before. The annexation of the Transvaal Republic, following on that of the Orange Free State, has left the Boers still in arms without a country; they must either lay down their arms and become British subjects or they must emigrate. The reelection of Mr. McKINLEY to the Presidency of the United States, shattering the Filipinos' hope of independence, leaves them in a similar position of having to become citizens of the United States or quit the Islands for another country. Both in South Africa and the Philippines there is a certain number—though in neither case can the exact figures be known—of uncompromising opponents of the conquering Power's troops in the field, but the greater danger is threatened by the pretended friends, the ostensibly peaceful citizens, who take the earliest opportunity of joining the enemy's forces or, better still, render them all the assistance possible without compromising themselves. It is with these pretended friends that Lord KITCHENER and General MACARTHUR have the greatest difficulty in coping. We hear from day to day scanty news of the British Commander-in-Chief's progress, but apart from the extension of martial law over certain dis-

tricts of Cape Colony not much can be gathered of what steps are being taken to check the "surreptitious movements" of some of the Cape Dutch, of which REUTER's telegram tells us. In the Philippines General MACARTHUR at the end of last year issued a new proclamation, dated Manila, 20th December, reminding the inhabitants of, and explaining to them, some of the essential provisions of the laws of war, in the hope that "their careful perusal by the people will induce all who are eager for the tranquillisation of the Archipelago to combine for mutual protection and united action on behalf of their own interests and the welfare of the country." The necessity for allusion to the laws of war arises, General MACARTHUR states, from the recent issue by insurgent commanders of proclamations threatening native inhabitants of places acquiescing in reciprocal relations with the United States troops in districts under martial law; and from the successful kidnapping and assassination of residents of occupied towns, by order of insurgent leaders. All engaged in such transactions are warned that they must eventually answer for murder or such other crimes as result from their action. The only escape from such a fate is that the guilty should become fugitive criminals beyond the jurisdiction of the United States; which, in effect, means life-long expatriation, adds the proclamation. General MACARTHUR then turns to those who, like many of the South African Dutch, reside in an occupied district and do things inimical to the interests of the occupying army. These he reminds that to comply with demands of an expelled public enemy, and make no report thereof, creates the presumption that the act is voluntary and malicious, in such a case a plea of intimidation can rarely be accepted. Those who from timidity or misplaced sympathy screen, with full knowledge, members of secret committees, helping the insurgents by collecting supplies, recruiting men, and sending military information, are also liable to be treated as war traitors against the United States. The practice of sending supplies to the insurgents from places under occupation by the United States troops is strictly forbidden, all those continuing in the traffic from contumacy or intimidation being warned to be prepared to answer for their actions as war traitors. The city of Manila is particularly warned of the above penalties. Next follows the reminder that those who participate in hostilities without being part of a regularly organised force, and without sharing continuously in its operations, but who do so with intermittent returns to their homes and avocations, divest themselves of the character of soldiers and, if captured, are not entitled to the privileges of prisoners of war. It is well known, states General MACARTHUR, that many of the occupied towns support and encourage men who habitually assume the semblance of peaceful pursuits, but who have arms hidden outside of the towns and periodically slip out to take part in guerrilla war. The fact that such men have not heretofore been held responsible for their actions, he continues, is simply an evidence of the solicitude of the United States to avoid all appearance of harshness in pacifying the Islands, and not of any defect in the law itself. The people of the Archipelago now have their attention drawn to the penalties to which they lay themselves open.

If the United States Military Governor acts strictly up to the terms of his proclamation, the last has been seen of the policy of treating rebellion by kindness which has hitherto been given a long trial in the Philippines, as it

has also been by Lord ROBERTS in South Africa. Such a policy cannot be indefinitely persisted in, it is obvious, if the enemy only respond by defiance, unless the Power claiming sovereignty is prepared to resign that claim. And in such a struggle, where the rebels, be they Boers or Filipinos, use all the forces of intimidation to coerce their own race-fellows, only the most drastic measures are of any service in keeping the timid or wavering to their loyalty. The leniency displayed by the Americans and British has only had the effect, it would seem—and as, indeed, many anticipated—of prolonging the struggle, of swelling the rebel forces, and driving many pseudo-loyalists into their arms. In the interests of ultimate peace a more rigorous policy must be hailed as welcome.

THE SANITARY BOARD AND THE GOVERNMENT.

(Daily Press, 5th January.)

The discussion at Thursday's meeting of the Sanitary Board on Mr. OSBORNE's motion has probably been read with mixed feelings. The motion was carried, as our readers have seen, though only after a long discussion, that the Board should reply to the Acting Colonial Secretary's suggestion for the formulation of a comprehensive scheme of sanitary improvements that it was not disposed to formulate such a scheme "unless some assurance be forthcoming that the Government will give immediate effect to some at least of the Board's recommendations." The Board has its thick-and-thin supporters, and no doubt some equally uncompromising opponents. But there are many, we imagine, who, while extending every sympathy to the more progressive members of the Board in their arduous struggle against their environment, are hardly prepared to endorse the attitude adopted of demanding an assurance that immediate effect be given to some of the Board's recommendations. Without going so far as Dr. BELL on Thursday, such persons may at least be disposed to think the Board's reply to the Government to be bad policy. It seems to us that Mr. OSBORNE struck the right note, when he said that what was wanted was that, when the Board's recommendations were rejected, a reason should be given for the rejection, not a mere "Yes" or "No." By refusing to treat with the Government, which is practically what the Board did by its motion on Thursday, our sanitary experts deal a blow at their own *locus standi*, which is the reverse of wise. To what end will the long and animated discussions at the Sanitary Board's meetings tend, if in the end some practical recommendation to the Government is not made? Granting that the Sanitary Board has been treated with scant respect in the past, we may yet ask whether it can be considered probable that when the members refuse to give advice at the invitation of the Government, the latter will lend a readier ear to unsolicited recommendations. It was urged at the Board's meeting that the preparation of reports embodying a comprehensive scheme of sanitary reform in the colony would be mere waste of time, as they would only be ignored. If the Board is thoroughly convinced of this, do its members contemplate using its sittings merely for the airing of theories and for academical discussions?

Lieutenant Hobson, who has been laid up with fever at Washington, and who has been at times in a critical position, is improving daily, states a private wire received in Hongkong during the New Year.

PROPOSED ROYAL VISIT TO HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 8th January.)

The inability of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York to visit this Colony, either on their way to or on their return from the inauguration of the new Australian Commonwealth, though it will occasion keen disappointment here, can hardly be said to come as a surprise. Owing to the late date fixed for the departure of the Royal party for Melbourne by the steamship *Ophir*, escorted by two British cruisers, the Duke and Duchess have not sufficient time at their disposal to visit us on their way out. The *Ophir*, it will be remembered, is timed to leave England in March next and will not reach Melbourne before the beginning of May. After Their Royal Highnesses' departure from Australia the time required to bring them up to Hongkong would land them at the most dangerous period of the year. If we have to fear a plague epidemic, which we trust we have not, we cannot forget the experience of past years, which shows that plague is always at its worst in the second quarter of the year, from April to June inclusive. That the possibility of an epidemic weighed with those who had the arrangements of the tour cannot be doubted. We may be fortunate enough to see little of the unpleasant epidemic this year; but we must recognise, while we regret, the strength of the motives which prevent us from enjoying a visit from our future sovereigns and of testifying our loyalty to them as we should wish to do.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

SHANGHAI, 6th January, 7.41 p.m.

General Tung Fuhsiang's troops are reported to have mutinied at Kuyuanchow, in Kansu.

General Feng Tse-tsai in Yunnan has been ordered north with 15,000 well-drilled troops.

SHANGHAI, 7th January, 7.31 p.m.

The Russians transfer the Shanhaikwan railway to Mr. Kinder on the 14th instant. The workshops are entirely stripped of machinery, plant, stores, and material.

The launch *Kwai Lam* arrived in Manila from Hongkong on the 31st ult. Captain Cobban was in command of her, and made the passage after four previous attempts to get to in sea the small craft had failed. A second launch, the *Wa Hing*, arrived in Manila Bay last week from Hongkong with Captain Robbins in charge. She is a 30-ton boat, about 75 or 80 feet long, and powerfully engined. There are still a few more of these launches to be brought over from Hongkong, says a Manila paper, and when they have all been distributed about the different outposts, the U. S. Government will have a launch system which will be entirely initiative as well as unique. Every port of consequence will have its own designated launch for Customs and Harbour-Master's work. At the same time the transportation of troops and supplies, in time of need, or in fact at any moment when necessary, may be easily accomplished. The excellent work of the Signal Corps, adds the paper, has provided ample accommodation for constant communication between the various ports, so that should any expected attack be made upon a certain garrison, a launch would always be ready at a moment's notice to carry re-enforcements to the desired point.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held at the Chamber Rooms on Monday, the 7th January, 1901, at 3 p.m.—Present: Hon. R. M. Gray (Chairman), Messrs. A. Haupt, Sir Thomas Jackson, Knt., D. R. Law, A. M. Marshall, R. L. Richardson, C. S. Sharp, N. A. Sisbs, Hon. J. Thirburn (*ex officio*), and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous monthly meeting (held 10th December, 1900) were read and confirmed.

NEW MEMBERS.

The Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd. and

The Green Island Cement Company, Ltd., were elected to membership of the Chamber on the 22nd December.

On the proposition of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. HAUPT.

Messrs. Watkins & Co., Ltd., were elected to membership.

THE REVISION OF THE CHINESE TARIFF.

In accordance with the decision come to at the last meeting, a letter was, on the 18th December, addressed to Sir Ernest M. Satow, H.B.M. Minister at Peking, drawing his attention to the promise made by his predecessor that before any settlement with regard to the revision of the Chinese Tariff was agreed upon, this Chamber (and that of Shanghai) would be afforded an opportunity of expressing its opinion on the Tariff proposals, when its views would receive full and careful attention, and adding that the probable contingency of the question being dealt with in the settlement now pending with China had induced the Chamber to make the communication.

The letter was read.

The CHAIRMAN said that no reply had been received yet; sufficient time had hardly elapsed for that; and there was nothing further to be done meantime.

THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

The Government having, on the 15th December last, addressed a letter to the Chamber, inquiring whether in the opinion of the Committee there was any objection to Monday, the 24th idem, being made a public holiday, a reply was returned the same day to the effect that they saw no objection to the proposal.

BRITISH-GROWN PRODUCTS AND THE REVISED FRENCH TARIFF.

Read letter enclosing copy of a resolution passed by the United Planters' Association of Southern India in favour of a commercial combination of Great Britain and her Colonies and India against the world by a system of differential duties. The movement, it was stated, is specially directed against the French Tariff, recently revised, which has practically doubled the duties on coffee, tea, and spices.

The letter was considered, and it was decided to acknowledge its receipt.

SIR J. LISTER KAYE'S SCHEME FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE NAVIGATION OF THE YANGTZE.

Read letter from Sir John Lister Kaye dated 26th November last, acknowledging receipt of Chamber's letter of the 1st October with regard to his scheme for the improvement of the navigation of the Upper Yangtze, and stating that a despatch had been sent from the Foreign Office to Sir Ernest Satow inquiring whether the Chinese Government would agree to the scheme.

CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN OF GOODS IMPORTED INTO JAPAN.

Read letter from the Japanese Consul, dated 29th December, to the effect that on and after the 1st January, the copies of invoices hitherto required to be filed at the Japanese Consulate with a certificate of origin of goods, will not be asked for, but shippers are requested in future to provide the forms of certificate at their own cost.

Receipt of this letter was acknowledged on the same date.

EXPORTS OF CARGO TO THE UNITED STATES.

The Secretary reported that, in consequence of the refusal of some of the steamship agencies and companies to supply memos of cargo for ports in the United States, he had

been compelled to discontinue the table of exports to the United States, hitherto given in the "Market Report." Unless all the returns could be given, the table would be worse than useless; it would be misleading.

Regret was expressed at the necessity for this step, which was under the circumstances seen to be unavoidable.

The following letters are those read at the meeting:—

THE REVISION OF THE CHINESE TARIFF.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong, 18th December, 1900.

SIR,

The statements recently made in the public press, to the effect that negotiations with China for the conclusion of peace will shortly be commenced, and the probable contingency that the revision of the Chinese tariff may be included in the settlement, have induced the Committee of this Chamber to approach you on the subject.

In February last, a rumour having been persistently circulated that the revision of the Chinese Tariff was being rapidly pushed on, this Chamber addressed a communication to your esteemed predecessor, Sir Claude M. MacDonald, expressing the hope that, before any settlement was arrived at, the Chambers of Commerce in the Far East would be afforded an opportunity of expressing their opinion on the Tariff proposals, and stating that they would like to be informed whether it was true that the negotiations on the subject had been commenced. His Excellency was good enough, in his prompt reply, to say that there was no truth in the rumour that negotiations were being pushed on rapidly; though it was true that the Chinese Government had approached Her Majesty's Government on the subject, and that the latter had replied that they had no objection to consider the matter. He added that no change of Tariff was "at all likely to take place without previous consultation with the parties most interested, more especially the Chambers of Commerce of Hongkong and Shanghai, whose views would receive full and careful attention."

The Committee make no doubt that there will be a continuity of policy in this as in other matters in the Legation, but they consider it advisable to address your Excellency on this important question, so that it can by no possibility escape attention, as was the case when the new Tariff with Japan was concluded, with results most disastrous to the trade in refined sugar between that country and Hongkong.

Any revision of the Chinese Tariff would of course affect, in a most momentous manner, the trade of this Colony, and that must be our reason for troubling you with this despatch at a period when I am sure your Excellency must have unusual demands on your time and attention.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. M. GRAY,

Chairman.

H.E. Sir ERNEST M. SATOW, K.C.M.G.,
H.B.M.'s Minister in China.

THE NAVIGATION OF THE YANGTZE RIVER.
16, Bolton Street, London, W.
26th November, 1900.

SIR,

I beg to acknowledge your letter dated 1st October, 1900, and shall be much obliged if you will kindly thank the Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce for their kind letter to me with regard to the Improvement of the Navigation of the Yangtze River.

I shall be obliged if you will inform the Committee that I am glad to be able to announce to them that Mr. Bertie informed me last Wednesday that the Foreign Office has written by last Friday's mail to Sir Ernest Satow to enquire if the Chinese will agree to my Petition.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

JOHN LISTER KAYE.

R. M. GRAY, Esq.,

Chairman,

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong.

BRITISH-GROWN PRODUCTS AND THE REVISED FRENCH TARIFF.

United Planters' Association of Southern India, Madras, 11th November, 1900.

The PRESIDENT.

General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

DEAR SIR,

At the Annual Meeting of this Association on 8th August, 1900, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That considering the critical condition of the tea and coffee industries, this Association do communicate with the Indian Tea Association, the Ceylon Planters' Association, the Indian Chambers of Commerce and the leading firms of merchants and brokers interested in tea and coffee, &c., in this country and in England, and her Colonies, with a view to ascertaining whether a movement in favour of a commercial combination of Great Britain and her Colonies and India against the world (which would by a system of differential duties afford some protection to British-grown products and manufactures) would receive support."

This resolution may be said to have resulted chiefly from the recent revision of the French Tariff in regard to imports of produce from (*inter alia*) India, and the British Colonies and Dependencies. You are doubtless aware that the French Parliament, as an act of reprisal against Brazil, voted recently a law doubling the duties on coffee, tea, and spices imported from countries not having Treaties of Commerce with France, or not enjoying Most Favoured Nation Treatment, among which are India, the British Colonies and Dependencies (with the exception of Canada). The French and Brazilians have made up their quarrel, but the French Tariff law, which was really directed against Brazil, still subsists. There appears to be reasonable ground for hope that it will not be put into force, but if it should, the consequence would be, to use the words of the *Economist*, that the prohibitory tariff for Colonial produce would only be applied to countries, British Colonies among others, for which it was not intended.

Although it is possible that the French Government may be induced to reconsider the action referred to, yet what has been already done serves as an unmistakable warning of the grave risk to which British Trade is at present exposed, and the burdens it may at any time be called upon to bear.

It is felt that there is a strong and growing feeling in England and her Dependencies and Colonies in favour of what may be termed an Imperial Fiscal Federation for the protection of British interests as against those of the rest of the world. The Association is desirous of eliciting your views on the subject, to co-operate for the purpose of submitting memorials to the Home Government, and other Governments concerned, and would be glad of your advice as the precise form such memorials should take.

If you have already made any move in the direction indicated, a copy of your proceedings would be welcome.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

H. PERCIVAL HODGSON,

Chairman.

HARRY AMEND,
Secretary.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 9th January, 1901.

H. PERCIVAL HODGSON, Esq.

Chairman,

United Planters' Association of Southern India.

DEAR SIR,

I beg leave to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 11th Nov. last, enclosing copy of a resolution passed at the last annual meeting of your Association to ascertain whether a movement in favour of a commercial combination of Great Britain and her Colonies and India against the world, by a system of differential duties, to afford some protection of British-grown products and manufactures, would receive support.

Your letter was laid before the Committee of this Chamber at its last meeting and considered, but they could not see their way to join in such a movement as that proposed.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

R. M. GRAY,
Chairman.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY AT SHAUKIWAN.

OVER SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS STOLEN.

A highway robbery, similar in the manner of its perpetration to that on the Shatin Road lately, but differing in the fact of its having been committed almost in our midst, in broad daylight, is reported by the police. On Saturday last, at about noon, Leung Chung, a foreman at the Taikoo Sugar Refinery, Quarry Bay, and partner in the Po Tai shop, 5, Des Voeux Road, set out for Quarry Bay in a private ricksha, in which was a bag containing \$400 in twenty and ten cent pieces, equally divided. He was accompanied by Lo Tai Po, his partner in the Poi Tai shop, who also was in a private ricksha, and who carried a second bag containing \$346 odd—this sum, like the first, being equally divided in twenty and ten cent pieces. The money was for the purpose of paying the coolies at Quarry Bay. All went well for the greater part of the journey, and there was no thought of danger in the mind of either, when just past the North Point Battery, on the Shauiwan Road, seven men, armed with sticks, jumped out from the bushes fringing the road and attacked the two partners before the latter had time to recover from their surprise and take steps to save themselves and their property. The robbers by sheer might of numbers succeeded in very soon overcoming the weak opposition offered them, and snatching the two bags, containing between them nearly \$750, from the rickshas, bolted up the hillside and got clear away, their escape being facilitated by the fact that the victims probably dared not attempt to stay or pursue them. Instead they at once made their way to the nearest police station and reported the robbery. They say they can identify the men, of whom descriptions have been issued by the police. The outrage bears on its face the stamp of premeditation, and in this aspect further resembles the robbery and murder on Shatin Road, when, as will be remembered, three armed men waylaid and beat to death a foreman who was carrying in a ricksha a sum of money wherewith to pay his master's coolies. The men in the present case had by some means probably made themselves aware of the fact that the money was to be transmitted to Quarry Bay for the purpose stated, and laid their plans accordingly—how successfully has already been seen. The police have actively taken the case up, and there is every prospect of speedy arrests.

FATAL SHOOTING ACCIDENT NEAR SAMCHUN.

EUROPEAN SHOTS HIS BOY DEAD.

One of those accidents terminating fatally that often attend shooting parties, even when the utmost care is taken to prevent such contingencies, is reported from the New Territory. On Sunday morning last Mr. C. E. Klinck, assistant superintendent in the Rope Works at Kennedytown, and a party of three friends, were out pigeon-shooting in the New Territory, Mr. Klinck being accompanied by his "boy," a Chinese lad of about sixteen years of age. The party made its way to Samchun in Chinese territory, where Mr. Klinck, who carried a double-barrelled gun, fired one charge from the right barrel at a pigeon, wounding it. The bird dropped amongst some bushes, and the boy was sent to look for it. He was gone some time, and, becoming impatient, Mr. Klinck went to help in the search. He saw the boy, whose back was turned, and was making his way towards him, when, by some means not yet explained, the left barrel exploded, although, Mr. Klinck states, the hammer was not cocked. The unfortunate boy was only a few feet away, and received the full charge of buckshot in his back, some of it going through the spine. He expired in ten minutes. The body was removed to the Samchun customs station, and brought over to Hongkong on Monday morning, whence it was sent to the public mortuary.

The cruiser *Highflyer*, the flagship of Admiral Bosanquet on the East Indian station, arrived in Rangoon just before Christmas to enable the Admiral and suite to spend their holidays in Upper Burma.

MURDER AT YAUMATI.

ATTACKED WITH A CHOPPER.

At eleven o'clock on Wednesday night, a man named Leung Hing, a partner in a marine store at No. 17, Station Street, South Yaumati, was sent to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from wounds in the neck, head, face, and arms. He died at 1.45 on Thursday morning. Two arrests have been made.

It would appear that the wounds were caused by a chopper, but the circumstances under which they were inflicted do not appear as yet to have transpired. So far as can be ascertained, however, the murdered man, apparently from motives of revenge, was enticed outside his house and set upon in the manner described. He was left for dead in the road, but, reviving somewhat, summoned sufficient strength to crawl to the door of his dwelling where he was discovered some time later by a foki. This man apprised the police of the affair, who, on their arrival, did all they could for the unfortunate man, and then had him conveyed to the Government Civil Hospital, where, as already stated, he died soon after being admitted. One of the two men arrested in connection with the crime is the murdered man's foki.

OUTBREAK OF FIRE.

TWO NARROW ESCAPES.

About one o'clock on the 9th inst. fire broke out in the Fuk Lui Sing piece goods shop, 39, Wing Lok Street. The outbreak originated in the ground floor of the building, a two-storey one, and spread with such rapidity that the Fire Brigade, although promptly in attendance, were quite unable to save the premises, which were gutted. The place was fully insured in two companies—the Transatlantic Fire Insurance Company, for \$11,000, and the South British Insurance Company, for \$3,000. When the fire had been extinguished, Inspector McNab and Lance-Sergeant Garrod (assistant foreman of the Fire Brigade), entered the premises with torches for the purpose of gaining an idea of the damage done. They made a tour of the place, and were returning when suddenly the roof gave way with a crash, almost burying the two men. Indeed, had they gone another step farther, the probability is that they would have been killed, as the falling debris just missed their heads. Inspector McNab fortunately heard the roof give a cracking noise as it loosened, and pulled Lance-Sergeant Garrod, who was in front, back out of danger. As it was, Inspector McNab was rather severely bruised on the right leg, while Lance-Sergeant Garrod was completely pinned down by a beam that lay across his thigh. On his being extricated—to effect which the beam had to be sawn in two—it was found that his ankle had been fractured, and he was removed to the hospital, where he now lies.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO RAISE THE "CANTON RIVER."

CAPTAIN PERCY SCOTT TO MAKE A TRIAL.

All attempts having proved futile to raise the sunken dredger *Canton River*, which was brought out by Messrs Punchard, Lowther & Co. for use at the new Admiralty Extension Works and which capsized in the Harbour opposite Murray Pier during the recent typhoon, Captain Percy Scott, of H.M.S. *Terrible*, has been appealed to and asked if he could suggest any means of floating her, as the Admiralty work has been delayed by her not being available. A model of the craft in her present sunken position, made by Mr. Gillies, has been handed to Captain Scott, who has had a complete plan drawn out on a scale of 1 in. to a foot, and a scheme prepared, which, he apprehends, will have the desired effect and float the unfortunate vessel. In her present position, the dredger lies with her head east, 380 feet from Murray Pier. She is 180 feet long, 36 feet of beam, and 15 feet depth, of a gross weight of 1,000 tons. She is embedded in the mud about four feet forward, and her mast and derricks have been forced

many feet downwards by the heavy weights attached to them, thus supporting her at an angle of 30 degrees with the surface bottom. The first step towards getting her up again is to turn her over topside up, and Captain Scott's method of doing this is clearly set out in the model, every block, rope, and strain, and the position of the chain slings which go round the vessel being shown. At the after end of the dredger an anchor is thrown out in a northerly direction, that is exactly opposite to the direction it is intended to turn the vessel. The object of this is to prevent her from slipping, and assist her to maintain her equilibrium. Three enormous tackles of 100 tons each are taken from the *Praya* to the chains round the dredger, and anchors for these heavy strains are now being placed in positions about ten feet apart, so as to distribute the strain over about 90 feet of her length. On the north side will be three lifting lumps, and the combined lift and pull over is expected to turn her. The novel feature of Capt. Scott's plan is to pump air into her from a torpedo-boat destroyer, and so displace the water, and then if success attends the turn-over she will be turned round, stern to the *Praya*, dragged into shallow water, and then pumped out.

THE THEATRE.

At the Theatre Royal, City Hall, on Wednesday night, Pollard's Lilliputian Opera Company gave the opening performance of their season at Hongkong, choosing the ever popular *Geisha* for the purpose; and a most excellent selection it proved. Seldom has a warmer welcome been extended on the first night than Mr. Pollard's young people received, and certainly no company has deserved its welcome better. One and all, from beginning to end, the "Lilliputians" worked in the spirit of true artists, and there was not a single hitch. Acting, singing, and dancing alike showed the performers off to the utmost advantage, and at times it seemed wonderful to reflect that the figures before one's eyes were but children, in some cases many years under 10 in age. It goes without saying that great credit is due to those who have selected, trained and looked after the company; while to the young performers themselves we must yield unstinted admiration.

When all worked so hard and well, it is a difficult task to single any in particular, but in the best of performances there must be grades of merit, and so last night some of the youthful actresses and actors stood out among their fellows. Without a doubt the popular favourite was little Miss Madge Williams, who played Molly Seymour with wonderful cleverness and intelligence, besides showing himself a pretty dancer and an excellently trained vocalist—the term seems almost too big to apply to a child of 6 years old. Her performance by itself was worth going a long way to see and hear. As O Mimosa San, Miss Alice Bennetto proved to have a very sweet voice, which challenged comparison with those of many adult Mimosas whom we have heard. Moreover she well filled the rôle in other respects. Of the officers of H.M.S. *Turtle* three in particular must be singled out, Reginald Fairfax (Miss Ivy Trott), Dick Cunningham (Miss Lily Thomson), and Tommy Stanley (Miss Daphne Trott). The first two looked their parts most charmingly, and in addition acted well and sang excellently, Fairfax's rendering of "Star of my Soul" being particularly meritorious. As the middy, the younger Miss Trott was perfectly imitable. Considering that she is only 5 years of age, we can only look on her as a "little wonder." Her allusion to the "cheek of French girls" brought the house down. Turning to the boys, Willie Pollard's Wun-Hi was one of the best things of the evening from the point of view of acting. He is a very clever youngster indeed. Harold Hill in the part of the Marquis Imari gave an excellent performance and proved himself to have considerable dramatic talent.

The audience on Wednesday included H.E. the Governor, with Lady and Miss Blake, and suite, H.E. Major-General and Mrs. Gascoigne, and nearly all the prominent representatives of the military, naval, and civil elements of the Colony.

The following is the full cast:—

Reginald Fairfax	Officers	Miss Ivy Trott.
Dick Cunningham	H.M.S.	Miss Lily Thomson.
Arthur Curdy	Turtle.	Miss Irene Goulding.
George Grimstone		Miss Emma Thomas.
Tommy Stanley		Miss Daphne Trott.
Lady Constance Wynne (An English		
yachting visitor)	Miss Minnie Topping.	
Miss Marie Whit-	English	Miss Alice Turner.
tington	Ladies,	Miss Buby Moore.
Miss Ethel Hurst	Guests,	Miss May Thorn.
Miss Mabel Grant	of Lady	Miss Madge Wil-
Miss Molly Seymour	Constance.	liams.
The Marques Imari (Chief of Police and		
Governor of the Province)	Master Harold Hill.	
Takamini (Marquis's Private Secretary)	Miss Bella Thomson.	
Capt. Katana (Capt. of the Guard)	Master Fred. Stewart.	
Wun Hi (Chinaman Propr. of Tea House)	Master Willie Pollard.	
Juliette Diamant (A French Girl attached to		
Tea House as Interpreter)	Miss Agnes Turner.	
Nami (Wave of the Sea, an attendant)	Miss Myrtle Trott.	
O Kiku San (Chrysanthemum)	Miss May Topping.	
O Hana San (Blossom)	Miss Florrie Sharpe.	
O Kinkoto San (Golden Harp)	Miss Connie Prebble.	
Komurasaki (Little San Violet)	Miss Sadie Farrell.	
O Mimosa San (Chief Geisha)	Miss Alice Bennetto.	
Coolies, Attendants, Mousmes, Guards, etc.		

On Thursday night before another fully packed house Pollard's Lilliputian Opera Co. repeated the *Geisha*, and again their efforts met with a great success, the house being most enthusiastic. The principle parts are all admirably filled; we were particularly struck with the natural acting of the two sisters, Miss Ivy and Miss Daphne Trott, who as Reginald Fairfax and Tommy Stanley really seemed to us more life-like officers of H.M.S. *Turtle* than we have seen for long. A capital performance too was that of Miss Agnes Turner, a very young lady who gave an excellent exhibition in the role of Juliette Diamant, the French maid. We should like also to add a word of praise for the orchestra, who are a great improvement on the scratch selection which some companies think sufficient to accompany them. Mr. Pollard brings his own musicians, and a very capable lot they are.

PRESENTATION TO MR. R. COOKE.

On the 5th inst. Mr. R. Cooke, assistant manager of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., was waited upon in the Reading Room at Kowloon Docks by the members of the European staff, and presented with his life-size portrait as a souvenir of the New Year, 1901. On making the presentation Mr. Rutter referred to the long and friendly association of Mr. Cooke with the staff and to the many kindnesses they had experienced at his hands. He regretted that Mr. Cooke's state of health had prevented him being present at the annual reunion, but felt convinced that he was with them in spirit. He had much pleasure in handing him the life-like portrait, wishing him on behalf of all present good health and happiness in the coming year. He asked the staff to drink to the long life and prosperity of Mr. and Mrs. Cooke.

Mr. Cooke, who was deeply touched, thanked Mr. Rutter and all present for the kind manner in which his health and that of Mrs. Cooke had been responded to, and in accepting the picture said it would be much treasured by himself and handed down to his son after him as another token of the kindly spirit which he has always found exhibited towards him by the Dock Co.'s employees, with whom he was proud to identify himself.

The proceedings were brought to a close with three hearty cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Cooke.

News from Acheen tell of promising gold discoveries on the Waila river, a west coast stream. A military expedition sent thither to prospect had a brush with the Achinese, who were beaten back with loss. But no experts accompanied the party and the results are not satisfactory, though gold has been found and stone alleged to be gold-bearing has been brought into camp. The Government intends to keep the gold mines at Waila for itself and to work them on State account. But, at present, there are not enough of skilled miners in the country available for the purpose. Government prospecting for minerals has also been carried on at Pulo Way and Pulo Bras.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 5th January.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

New Year's Day passed off very quietly here, the amount of fire-crackers let off in celebration of the new year falling far short of that of former years. Popular enthusiasm over the dawn of the twentieth century appears not to have been up to expectation.

FRESH TROUBLES AT KUMCHUK.

News has come to hand of serious disturbances at Kumchuk, one of the West River stages, and the respectable Chinese doing business there are reported to be in a state of great alarm. That some truth attaches to this rumour is evidenced by the fact that the I.M. Customs Station there has been reinforced by the addition of one European officer.

PRESENTS FOR THE EMPEROR.

The merchants and gentry and the professors of the four principal Colleges in Canton, have sent large presents of silk and satin, rice, dried meats, and native produce, &c., to the value of \$20,000, to the Emperor Kwang Hsu in anticipation of his return to Peking. They have wired to Viceroy Liu of the Liang Kiang, and Chang Chi-tung, of Hunan and Hupeh, and asked them for protection, and the latter has answered by wire that he will send soldiers to protect the goods on the way. They were sent on the 2nd ult. by s.s. *Anping*, belonging to the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company.

TAYLOR-CARRINGTON CO. AT SHAMEN.

The monotony of our quiet existence was broken by performances in the Club Theatre on the 3rd and 4th inst. by the Taylor-Carrington Company, which appear to have been much appreciated. The Company will give a farewell performance to-night, after which they will proceed to Shanghai.

A MUCH-NEEDED RAINFALL.

The long-continued drought was relieved by slight showers of rain yesterday afternoon, and the weather shows signs of changing. The small rainfall yesterday must have been hailed with satisfaction by the agricultural populace, who have long been praying for rain for their crops. The city too is much in need of good rainfalls to flush the drains and cleanse the streets.

TWO NAVAL DEATHS.

Two days ago a seaman belonging to H. I. G. M. S. *Luchs* died of illness and was interred in the Canton Cemetery.

On the 4th inst. the dead body of a French sailor belonging to the French gunboat *Vigilante* was found, having been in the water for two or three days. On New Year's evening, it may be, the deceased indulged in a little too much whiskey, and whilst staggering along the Bund fell headlong into the canal, and got stuck in the mud, there being about four or five feet of water at the time. On the evening in question there was moon light, and it must have occurred before 9 p.m.; yet among the number of boats that were in the canal there were none that ever thought of saving the poor sailor. On the 21st December last, when the s.s. *Hankow* was leaving Canton, she capsized a sampan with three Chinese in it. A French sailor named Hamon, as I have related in a previous letter, bravely jumped into the water at the risk of his life to save the poor Chinese. But in the present instance when the scoundrels of boatmen saw an unfortunate European fall into the water, they never even lent a helping hand. Surely some punishment ought to be meted out to them to serve as a warning to others.

EXECUTION OF CRIMINALS.

Fourteen criminals convicted of various crimes, including murder, robbery, kidnapping, and poisoning, were taken out on the 1st of January from the gaols of the Nam Hoi and Pun-yu Magistrates, and executed, some by beheading, some by strangulation in the cages, while others were sent to the scene of their crime for execution.

DEVELOPING THE SILK TRADE.

There were over 200 steam flatboats working in the districts of Nam Hoi and Shon Tak, and the silk turned out amounted to 37,000 piculs yearly. In consequence of the falling off of the silk trade last year some enterprising merchants and gentry intend to raise large capital and

form a company to buy foreign machinery and employ skilful labourers to work at the silk, imitating foreign patterns.

THE TIMBER TRADE AND PIRACY.

The largest trade in timber is between the West River stages and Canton, and on account of the prevalent piracy the timber guild intends to run several steam launches to take timber, and employ soldiers for their protection during the voyage.

TWO MURDERERS CAPTURED.

According to the laws of China, a person who has committed murder, runs away into a monastery and turns priest, is exempted from punishment. It was traced out by spies that two of the murderers of the late soldier Yeong Chohoi, of the Li Ka Cheuk regiment, had escaped into a monastery at Ting Hoo hill, in the district of Sew Hing. Two spies disguised themselves as merchants, went into it, and saw the two murderers there, who had taken to priestly garb and had their queues cut off and their heads closely shaven. They had tea together, and were talking agreeably when all at once the two spies produced their warrants and had them arrested and brought back by steam-launch to the yamen of the Nam Hoi Magistrate. On account of this escape from justice, the Nam Hoi magistrate had often had many bitter words with Li Ka Cheng, the commander of the Cheuk regiment.

THE YANGTZE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

29th December, 1900.

The loss of the *Suihsiang* in the rapids of the upper Yangtze serves to emphasize what has previously been said in your columns with regard to the almost insuperable difficulties attendant on any attempt at running steamers over them. Theorists like Mr. Little and Professor Douglas have a good deal to answer for, for the manner in which they have misled public opinion on this point. According to the latter it was merely the apathy of the British merchant that prevented British steamers from running regularly between Ichang and Chungking. Recognition of this, and the application of a little dynamite, were all that was needed (so he informed the public during a lecture delivered in London) to make everything plain-sailing, and to bring the vast and increasing trade of Szechuan under the influence of the British flag. At the time, endeavours were made to show how misleading these statements were, and in fact how untrustworthy Professor Douglas's deductions as regards commercial matters of China were in every respect. Of course I do not suppose such opinions as those of the two gentlemen above quoted had any or much influence on the owners of the ill-fated *Suihsiang*, but, pushing and enterprising as the action undoubtedly was, it savours somewhat of the foolhardy to start a steamer to ascend those rapids when the Sin-fan and others are nothing more or less than boiling and seething cataracts. Nor do I suppose that had she reached her destination in safety the German Government would have been prepared to find that profitable employment for her, which seems to have fallen to the lot of the *Pioneer*—an employment which is apparently profitable enough to keep her from again attempting the passage of those rapids, the dangers of which were made so light of by her previous advocate and initiator.

France has taken alarm, says the *Rangoon Gazette*, at the massing of Chinese troops on the Indo-Chinese frontier, and has to content herself for the present with such comfort as is to be derived from an assurance that the troops are sent merely to repress brigandage. It may be so, but the massing of troops there may easily lead to complications, and the extreme anxiety to repress brigandage in that particular part of China only is suspicious, so France has good cause for alarm. She must be prepared for any contingency. Even the suppression of brigandage, supposing the Chinese troops to confine themselves to that, would give France trouble, as it would drive many of the brigands into her territory.

SANDAKAN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

NATIVE MISCONDUCT IN BORNEO.

The year 1900 has been an unfortunate one for Borneo so far as native conduct goes. There are two instances to report to-day, one fortunately not very serious. Mr. Goldsmith, outdoor Superintendent for the North Borneo Trading Co., Ltd., was attacked on the 21st by the Malay serang of their tongkong with a heavy piece of wood, and knocked insensible; it would have gone hard with Mr. Goldsmith had not other natives seen the assault, and at once attacked his assailant, as the man has since admitted that he did not intend to stop until he had murdered him. The prisoner is presently detained at Tawao, where the assault occurred. Mr. Goldsmith is here, and will soon be all right again. The second matter is far more serious, the Government station at Putatan, some 4½ miles from Jesselton, the head-quarters of the railway activity in Borneo, being attacked by natives, and all the Sikhs very badly wounded, so much so that one died almost immediately. A second is since dead, and two others are in a serious condition, out of five men at the village. The extraordinary thing is that the men do not know what particular natives attacked them. Vigorous measures have, however, been taken, and the S.C. *Petrel* has since been here for reinforcements, a Maxim gun, etc., and it is sincerely to be hoped that the culprits will soon be traced, and very seriously handled. This kind of thing is becoming more frequent, instead of dying out, and the Government will no doubt adopt very strong measures in this instance.

THE WRECK OF THE "SUIHSIANG."

Mr. R. T. Davidson gives the *Shanghai Mercury* a full account of the wreck of the *Suihsiang*, from which we quote a few paragraphs. After relating the departure from Ichang (which was left on the 27th ult.), he relates how the ship came to the Ninkan Gorge and Tung Sing rapid, the "Devil's Gate." Here there is a deep though narrow channel (said to be only 25 or 30 feet wide) close to the centre rock, and a shallow one near the north bank through which pass the junks proceeding up river. It was through this deep channel that a steamer's course would be. Some who went ashore were told by the sampan men that there were only two feet of water on the rocks, indeed it was so little that the large native junks bound down stream at this season tranship their cargo at the other end of the gorge and send it down by small boats, so as to cross the Chin or Hsin Rapid and the Tung Sing drawing little water.

It was decided (says Mr. Davidson's account) to take on a local pilot for the rapid. This man at first objected to take the ship through, fearing he would suffer at the hands of his fellow pilots for taking a steamer up river, but an appeal was made to the captain of the native gunboat stationed at the bottom of the rapid; finally he came on board and we weighed anchor at 12.25 p.m. and attempted to go through the rapid. The ship made for the end of the centre rock and tried to return into the channel, but did not steer well. The Captain called to the engine room to give all the power possible and immediately afterwards, 12.30 p.m., driven by the current, she struck the ridge of submerged rocks in the forward starboard coal bunker, injuring, it is thought, two compartments. The force of the shock rolled her over though to no great extent. "Full speed astern" was the order from the bridge, but she failed to move for one or two minutes and at first the report was "all safe in the engine room."

When she was got off she made again for the main channel at full speed ahead, then an attempt was made to reach the North bank. The ship being below the rocks, the anchor was dropped; failing to hold, the ship swung round with the current to the south and an attempt seemed to be made to beach her astern, but this was impossible owing to the steep banks on either side. For some minutes we were hardly aware of the extreme danger, but the fore part of the ship beginning to sink a call

was made for the local lifeboats, of which there were four, fortunately more than usual. These at once put off to us. The ship's starboard small boat was lowered and on reaching the water the engines went ahead, capsizing her and drowning four men; one man held to the tackling and was saved. The port boat was also lowered, filled with members of the crew and other Chinese and ultimately reached land. By this time two of the local lifeboats had arrived and were immediately crowded with the Chinese passengers; shortly after two more came, and it now became evident there was no hope of saving the steamer, so several foreign passengers, the first engineer and second mate succeeded in jumping into these boats from the stern starboard side which was then over 6 feet above the water; the captain also attempted to get on board the last of these boats, but by that time the boat was too far off the ship. While these boats were landing their passengers the steamer continued to drift down stream, her head sinking deeper and deeper and while at an angle of about 20 degrees seemed to hang for a few minutes. At this time the Captain said to Bishop Cassels and Mr. Wigham, "Jump for your lives, gentlemen; the vessel will sink in a minute," this they did, the captain doing the same shortly after.

Having landed their passengers the lifeboats followed the steamer to try and save others. Bishop Cassels and Mr. Wigham, who were floating in the river, their life belts supporting them, were the first picked up; the captain after swimming some time, sank, having no life belt. Most of those remaining on the ship were able to get on the boats, but just before they left, the water began to pour into the engine room from the top and she sank more rapidly until at last she was perfectly upright in the water, then precisely at one o'clock, half an hour after she struck, she plunged to her doom in the depths beneath, the hissing of steam and explosion of the after boiler as she entered the water, sounding like thunder to us over a mile away. One foreigner was carried down with her, but being a good swimmer rose to the surface and was picked up; another who was on her rudder when she sank swam to the boats; a few Chinese also went down with the ship, some of whom were saved. How many natives were lost is not known at the time of writing, but all the foreigners with the exception of the captain are safe.

The awful sight of this fine steamer, which only an hour before had proudly stemmed the stream, sinking headlong with some foreign passengers and several of the crew still clinging to her stern was something never to be forgotten, and a picture that will haunt one's dreams for years to come. Those who have seen photographs of the sinking of H.M.S. *Victoria* can form a very clear idea of the fate of the German steamer *Suihsiang* in the Upper waters of the Yangtze. Shortly after she went down, the river showed not a trace of her whereabouts; not even a ripple disturbed the steamer where she sunk; a white life buoy moving slowly round with the current, was the only evidence of the great boat. Who could have imagined she would disappear so completely?

The Rev. John Ross, well known for his missionary labours in Manchuria, and his anti-Roman controversies, writes in the December number of the *Contemporary Review* on "China's Foreign Policy." In the course of his remarks he makes some rather strong remarks on the conduct of the Roman Catholic missionaries in China—we fear that non-Roman missionaries are rather too apt to do this—and he concludes:—To secure future peace the magistrate must have perfect freedom to judge and decide all litigation involving his own subjects, according to Chinese law, irrespective of creed and independent of the dictation or control of any external authority. In consequence of the past misconduct of foreigners the present state of the Chinese mind makes it imperative to secure some means to prevent the persecution of native Christians under the guise of ordinary legal prosecution. The native Christian suffers, not because he is a Christian, but because he is connected with the foreigner. But in order to attain freedom from persecution it is not needful to permit any missionary to domineer over the native magistrate.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

MOSQUITOES AND MALARIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 3rd January.

SIR.—As a humble subscriber, I wish to commend in unqualified terms the department of your valuable journal that is devoted to mosquitoes. I have read every word with a delightful relish, and have cultivated a growing appetite for more. I trust you will not discontinue it as long as "Visitor" remains in the colony. I hope further that the Odd Volumes Society will enlist the services of a poor abused "Resident" and secure from him a lecture on that interesting subject in the Town Hall. I want to further suggest that the Government should not discriminate in favour of rats, but should offer a reward of five cents for every mosquito killed. I also hope that our local poets will soon favour us with a bit of verse dedicated to "The Song of the Mosquito." Since the discussion commenced, I have lost twelve pounds in weight, and go to bed with my clothes on. Of course, I do not mean to say that I believe a word that our local scientists say against the mosquito, and I think that they are taking their lives in their hands in so publicly vilifying them. I know if I were the king mosquito of Hongkong that I would organize an insurrection at once.

Trusting that the discussion will be the means of bringing many new subscribers to your paper, yours, etc.,

THE SHADE OF HAMLET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 3rd January.

SIR.—There is no slightest need, even for "Anti-logroller," to belittle the really excellent work that is being carried out in our midst by the Civil and Military Authorities. I still hold to my opinion; and, as far as I can, regret the in all ways unwarranted and unflattering manner in which your correspondent alludes to the two gentlemen named. I am unknown to both, and I hold a brief for neither. I have no log to roll, neither have I an axe to grind.

I should feel greatly obliged if "Anti-logroller" would be good enough to cite "the highest authorities" who "say that a mosquito will fly two or three miles to feed." I was under the impression that the insect's wanderings in quest of food were of a much more limited length.—Yours, etc.,

RESIDENT.

THE CHINESE NEW YEAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

4th January, 1901.

SIR.—Local astronomers of Canton would have their New Year begin on February 18th, instead of the 19th, if one may judge by the correspondence of dates in the elaborate almanacs which come from that city. Their mistake, however, is not followed, as may be seen by the Chinese date on your own paper; so that it is only a matter of curiosity to note the error they have fallen into. Local astronomers, I say, for although the Imperial calendar is not drawn up in Canton, still the correspondence with the European calendar is probably the work of local mathematicians. Our Cantonese savants were not sufficiently familiar with the Gregorian Calendar to know that the year 1900 was not a leap-year. They accordingly gave February twenty-nine days, and hence their calendars for 1900 and 1901 are out by just a day.

It is a real error for them, and does not affect only the correspondence with our calendar; for it throws their solar stations a day out. Thus the vernal equinox of 1900, which really fell on 21st March, is marked in their calendars for 20th March. So also the autumnal equinox of the same year, which fell on the last day of the eighth moon, really came on the day which they marked as the first of the intercalary moon. The latter mistake is against the first principles of their system of intercalation, according to which an intercalary moon must lie completely within one sign of the zodiac;

that is, the sun must not pass from one sign to another.

The Chinese moons, instead of months, have an advantage over our system, inasmuch as they are natural divisions. Their calendar, too, has the charm of variety; while the twenty-four solar stations, which are quite independent of the moon, fix annual epochs for agricultural and other purposes.

The Chinese calendar, more or less in its present form, is of very old origin. Errors crept in naturally in the course of time, as they did into the Julian Calendar, and the first Jesuit missionaries turned to good account their mathematical skill, by proving the inaccuracy of the native calendar upon occasions of eclipse. Fr. Schall was the first to introduce corrections, and Fr. Verbiest, in the time of the Emperor Kang-hi, drew up the calendar in its present form, carrying his calculations as far as the year 2020. His calendar has been faithfully followed ever since, with some rare exceptions, as when the year 1894, or rather the 20th year of Kwang Hsu, was curtailed of a day, on account of the disastrous war with the Japanese. So, whatever our Cantonese astronomers may say we shall probably have our Chinese New Year holiday on Shrove-Tuesday, February 19th, and not the day before.

SAM-PA-TSAI.

THE BOXING ENTERTAINMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 9th January.

SIR,—I am surprised that you, the editor of an influential public journal, should be bold enough to state that a sight worth seeing is that of two men trying to pummel each other till one or both can scarcely stand. This practice of prize-fighting (for last night's exhibition was nothing else) is not allowed at home, and why Sir Henry Blake should allow it here, and what is more, tacitly sanction it by appearing *incognito*, is a matter which passes my comprehension. It is all very well to talk about the "noble art of self defence" bringing out all the latent good qualities in a man, and making him a unit not to be despised in the *personnel* of the British Army and Navy; the simple truth of the matter is that these exhibitions degrade the man, and, as can be seen in the ungovernable fits of temper that in almost every instance take possession of one or both combatants, serve only to bring out all the brutal instincts in his nature. This degrading influence in a lesser degree extends to the spectator, as could be witnessed by any one in Queen's Road last night long after the close of the proceedings in the City Hall.—Yours, &c.,

DISGUSTED.

[Our correspondent is mistaken. There was no "prize-fight" on Tuesday night. Glove-fights under Queensberry rules are permitted at home as here. Our representative witnessed no brutality, for there was none to be seen, at the City Hall. As for the conduct of spectators after leaving the building, that is to be attributed to a far more potent reason.—Ed. D.P.]

THE HONGKONG COTTON SPINNING, WEAVING AND DYEING COMPANY, LIMITED.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

At noon, on the 9th inst., an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the office of the general managers (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.) 4, Pedder Street. Mr. C. W. Dickson presided, and there were also present the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., A. Haupt, R. M. Gray (directors), J. McKie (Secretary), A. Shaw (manager), T. F. Hough, Byramjee, Ho Fook, Chan Chan Nam, Shui Woon, Chan Ku, Au Lun, and A. Kee.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman said—This meeting is called in accordance with the company's Articles of Association for the purpose of confirming or otherwise the special resolution passed at an extraordinary general meeting on the 22nd of last month. At that meeting the chairman fully explained the reasons for the resolution, and I have therefore only formally to propose that the following resolution passed at an ex-

traordinary general meeting of the company on the 22nd of December, 1900, be and is hereby confirmed:—"That the following Section be substituted for Section 2 of Article XVI, namely:—2.—The general managers may from time to time advance and lend for the purposes of the company such monies as they may think necessary or desirable, at such rate of interest, and upon such terms as they may think fit, but so that the total amount for the time being so advanced and lent shall not at any one time exceed the sum of two millions of dollars. All advances and loans which up to the date hereof have been made by the general managers for the purposes of the company are hereby agreed to and confirmed, and shall be deemed to be, and shall be part of and included in the said sum of two millions of dollars, and as security for the said sum of two millions of Dollars and every part thereof the general managers may from time to time mortgage or charge all or any or either or any parts or part of the company's property, lands, stock-in-trade, machinery, goods, chattels and effects."

Mr. T. F. HOUGH seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business before the meeting, gentlemen. I am much obliged for your attendance.

THE WANCHAI WAREHOUSE AND STORAGE CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the above Company for presentation to the shareholders at the tenth ordinary annual meeting, to be held at the offices of the General Managers, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, on Monday, the 14th January, 1901.

The General Managers beg to submit to the shareholders their report on the working of the Company, with a statement of accounts, for the year ended 31st of December, 1900.

On the 7th July the usual interim dividend at the rate of \$1.50 per share was paid out of the half-yearly rental from the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited. The balance now at credit of profit and loss account, including the balance of \$490.32 from last year, amounts to \$4,379.35. After providing for the final dividend at the above rate, absorbing \$3,900.00, there remains a small surplus of \$479.35, which it is recommended to carry forward to new profit and loss account.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson, whose re-election is recommended.

MEYER & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 9th January, 1901.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 31ST DECEMBER, 1900.

To capital account:—2,600 shares at \$100,	\$ 260,000.00
of which \$37.50 paid up	97,500.00
To mortgages of	\$140,000.00
To mortgages of	20,000.00
	160,000.00
To dividend account	412.50
To reserve fund	2,500.00
To balance of profit and loss account	4,379.35
	\$264,791.85
By Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	\$ 4,791.85
By property account	260,000.00
	\$264,791.85

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1900.

By balance of 1899	\$ 430.33
By net rent for premises of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company for 1st half-year, 1900	4,150.00
By net rent for premises of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company for 2nd half-year, 1900	4,150.00
By transfer fees of 1900	9.00
By interest account, 1900	40.03
	\$8,779.35
To interim dividend paid for 1st half-year, 1900	3,900.00
To commission to General Managers for 1900	500.00
To net profit	4,379.35
	\$8,779.35

CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LIMITED.

The is the following report for presentation to the shareholders at the fourth ordinary general meeting of the above Company, to be held at the office of the General Managers on Wednesday, 16th January, 1901, at 12 o'clock noon.

Annexed we have the pleasure to lay before shareholders a statement of accounts made up to 31st December, 1900.

The gross earnings for the past year amount to \$104,902.23 and after deducting all expenses, remuneration to General Managers, Consulting Committee's and Auditors' fees, there remains a balance of \$81,672.64 which it is recommended be appropriated as follows, viz:—

To place to reserve fund	\$25,000.00
To pay a dividend of 8 per cent.	56,000.00
To carry forward to the credit of next year's account	672.64

Under the resolutions passed at meetings held on 23rd January and 8th February last, the paid up capital of the company has been raised from \$500,000 to \$700,000.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Messrs. J. H. Lewis, J. S. Van Buren, Chow Hing Kee and Chau Tung Shang retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. F. Henderson and W. H. Potts, who are recommended for re-election.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 9th January, 1901.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1900.

Donation to "Indian Famine Fund"	\$ 100.00
Charges	5,473.46
Consulting committee's fee	4,000.00
Auditors' fee	200.00
Depreciation for 1900	111.39
Balance	\$1,672.64
	\$91,557.49

Balance	\$ 225.23
Interest on mortgages, loans, &c. \$101,902.23	
Less interest paid, commissions, &c., &c.	12,969.97
	\$89,157.49

BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.	
Capital 70,000 shares at \$20 (\$10 paid up)...	700,000.00
Reserve fund	10,000.00
6 per cent. debentures	14,300.00
Sundry creditors	5,557.00
Due to General Managers	24,081.51
Balance of profit and loss	\$1,672.64
	\$835,551.15
ASSETS.	
Loans—Provident loans	\$472,870.04
Loans on mortgage, shares, &c., &c.	354,155.80
	\$827,025.84
Furniture, as per last statement	1,000.00
New furniture	111.39
	1,111.39
Less depreciation	111.39
	1,000.00
Sundry debtors	4,949.63
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	1,681.18
Cash	1,908.50
	\$835,551.15

The hankering of Germany for a coaling station in the Far East is arousing uneasiness in Java, observes a Straits paper. It is feared that Germany has now an eye on some island in Netherlands India. It has leaked out that a short time ago a retired officer of the German Navy drew up plans for a settlement in the Lontar group to the north of Pulo Lankawi (Siamese), not far from Penang. He proposed to turn the group to account as a field for German trading enterprise. But, while his plans were still in outline, he had to disclose them before the time, because certain parties were trying to be beforehand in that quarter. It is alleged that this interference caused the failure of the plans which aimed, all at once, at bringing the British Government face to face with a German protectorate over the Lontar group as an event beyond recall.

CHANGE DOINGS.

Compared with a few years back, the total amount of capital invested in local industries and institutions has swelled up enormously, as is shown in our share list. So too the number of investors has increased and multiplied, and may now be said to form a goodly portion of the general public. An occasional peep in the mysteries of "Change Doings" in your columns would not, therefore, prove uninteresting to some of your readers, and I trust you will find this sufficient excuse for my intrusion on your valuable space.

The year 1900 is dead. As far as share business is concerned, it has not been an unmixed blessing. There are those who bless its memory, and there are those who are not doing that at any rate. But if I mistake not, the former are in the majority. On the whole, it has certainly ended better than it began.

In its early days, we had our full share of the air of uncertainty then pervading, one might say, almost the whole British Empire. Events in South Africa had come to a deadlock, and no one could say what the morrow might bring forth. That touchstone of the financial and political world, Consols, were bobbing up and down like a barometer in a coming storm. Naturally our stocks here followed suit. Business was almost at a standstill, and financial facilities there were none.

When the relief came, in the shape of better news from South Africa, it had very little effect on our market, as money was extremely tight, and capitalists would not grant reasonable terms. However, between March and June there were signs of a better feeling, when, down came the thunderbolt from the North, and it was during that acute crisis that the lowest point was touched. Thus money became tighter still, and business remained stagnant. That some Companies should have thought fit to call up more capital at such a time was really surprising, but it speaks volumes for their soundness that the calls were successfully met by those concerned.

As the last quarter of the year was drawing near a rift in the clouds became visible, doubtless the approaching return of our great financier having a good deal to do with it.

Be that as it may, the improvement went on until by the end of the year things were pretty lively, substantial advances having taken place in all the leading stocks, and the tone of the money market being decidedly easier.

During the year two new companies were successfully floated, and, I have it from good authority, both are doing well.

Taking the year as a whole, I calculate there has been an appreciation of over five million dollars in our local investments.

It may not be out of place here to mention one or two stocks specially. The long-looked-for advance in our premier institution has at last begun, and no wonder, now that the master hand has gripped the reins. On *dit* that they have had a phenomenally good half-year. If that be so, and there is no reason to doubt the report, happy those who "hang on" to their shares.

There is a sigh of relief all round, the Dock Company having decided to split their shares. The shares of this company had become too bulky to handle, owing to their immense size, and their sub-division was a positive necessity. The conversion of the reserve fund into capital is also a step in the right direction, and the directors may well be congratulated on putting forward such a workable and practical scheme.

Having gone over an agreeable ground, I now come to a rather disagreeable portion of my remarks. I mean mining shares. I may here mention that in my estimate of the year's total appreciation above given, I have not included these, and purposely so, as we cannot in all conscience call them "investments."

I dare say it will surprise many to know that since 1889 millions of money have gone out of Hong Kong in these ventures. It is too much to say that had these huge sums been legitimately invested here, the periodical fits of tightness of money we suffer from would not have occurred, or, at any rate, not to the extent they have. The depreciation in the last twelve months alone totals over 3½ millions. Eloquent evi-

dence, indeed, and the worst of it is, that the sufferers are those who can ill afford such losses.

There is only one remedy to stop this draining of Hong Kong. Fortunately our leading men are as a rule public-spirited, and if they would not lend their countenance, such ventures are bound sooner or later to disappear from our midst, and the sooner the better.

SUPREME COURT.

Thursday, 10th January.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

LI WUN V. THE WING FUNG TAI FIRM.

The plaintiff in his petition said he was the owner of No. 19, Jervois Street, and resided in the Shung Chun village in the Sun Hing district of the Kwangtung Province. The defendants carried on business at No. 19, Jervois Street. On or about the 12th March, 1899, the plaintiff let to the defendants the house No. 19, Jervois Street, at a rental of \$85 per Chinese month at a monthly tenancy. The defendants took possession of the house and continued as tenants until the 15th March, 1900, when the tenancy was determined by a notice to quit duly given to the defendants on the 15th February, 1900. The defendants had disregarded the said notice and still retained possession of the house. The plaintiff therefore humbly prayed: (1) that the defendants be ordered to deliver to the plaintiff possession of the house No. 19, Jervois street; (2) that the defendants be ordered to pay to the plaintiff the sum of \$500, as mesne profits from the 15th day of March, 1900; (3) that the plaintiff may have such further and other relief as to this honourable court seems meet.

In their answer the defendants contended that the plaintiff was merely the owner of the equity of redemption of the property known as 19, Jervois Street. The defendants denied taking possession of the house No. 19, Jervois Street, on or about the 12th March, 1899, but admitted receiving on or about the 15th Feb., 1900, from the plaintiff's solicitor, a notice calling upon them to quit and deliver up possession of the premises on the 15th March following. The defendants said they entered into possession of 19, Jervois Street, on or about the 18th Oct., 1895, under or by virtue of a lease or agreement for lease for a term of 30 years. The rent made payable by the defendants under the lease was \$72 per Chinese month and addition one half-dollar shoe-money per Chinese month. The defendants duly paid the monthly rent of \$72 and one half-dollar for shoe money from the 18th Oct., 1895, to the 11th March, 1899, and the plaintiff duly accepted the same. In or about the month of January, 1899, the defendants having mislaid the lease informed the plaintiff and asked him to furnish them with a copy, but the plaintiff declared that he had lost his copy, and on or about the 12th March, 1899, required the defendants to pay their rent for the said premises at the rate of \$85 per Chinese month or in the alternative to give up possession. The defendants fearing lest under the circumstances they might be unable successfully to resist a suit for the recovery of the premises paid the wrongful demand of \$85 per Chinese month on the 9th April, and continued to pay at such wrongful rate until the 30th Jan., 1900, since which date they had tendered and offered to pay the rent reserved by the lease, but the plaintiff had positively refused to accept the same.

Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. Robinson (instructed by Mr. H. K. Holmes) for the defendants.

Mr. Slade submitted that on the pleadings, which he read, he was entitled to judgment as regarded ejectment—on the admissions contained in the defendants' answer. The defendants set out that in 1895 a lease for 30 years was granted, which however, the plaintiff absolutely denied. The defendants admitted on their pleadings that from the 11th March onwards they paid rent not at the rate

reserved in the alleged lease, but at an increased rate, namely, \$85, in lieu of \$72. That increase of rent took place not at the end of a year but during an odd month, during the currency of the alleged 30 years' lease. He submitted that in law that could only have one interpretation, and that this operated as a surrender in law of the 30 years lease, if there was one, and was a fresh demise of the tenancy at a monthly rent of \$85. His friend agreed with him that on the facts as stated in the pleadings the plaintiff was entitled to take possession.

Mr. Robinson said the facts were undoubtedly as they appeared upon the pleadings. There was no getting over that. If the defendants failed to prove their lease the plaintiff was entitled to judgment. To recapitulate the facts very briefly, there was, as the defendants alleged, a lease of these premises granted to them for 30 years. During the currency of that period—in fact about five years after it began—the defendants lost or mislaid their lease, and were perhaps foolish enough to notify the lessor that they had lost it and to ask him for a duplicate. He, as they alleged, took advantage of that circumstance practically to deny the existence of the lease and to raise the rent and to treat the tenancy as a monthly one only. They were not in a position at the moment of being able to prove the lease and, rather than go out, paid the money under protest, under duress.

The Chief Justice—You do not say in terms you paid under protest; you say so in effect.

Mr. Robinson, continuing, said they said so in effect, but the point raised by his friend was that in law that operated as a surrender of the old lease, and it was on that point that his friend's argument signally failed. Mr. Slade argued that the necessary implication from the conceding of the demand was that they agreed to surrender, but that was contrary, he submitted, to the plain fact, because it was not the only implication. There remained the other implication that they were not in a position to resist the demand, and therefore were obliged to concede it, but without any agreement to surrender the lease and without acceptance of a new contract. That was the point Mr. Slade argued—that by operation of law it must be taken that they accepted a new contract and cancelled the old one. The defendants argued that the facts set out in their answer showed that they acted under duress and not by way of contract.

Mr. Slade submitted that a verbal demise in regard to a monthly tenancy was a perfectly good demise, and the mere fact of occupancy of tenancy and payment of monthly rent in law operated as an actual demise of such premises at a monthly tenancy.

The Chief Justice—Supposing I were with you and held that on the pleadings you were entitled to judgment, what would become of the alleged lease, supposing the lease existed?

Mr. Slade—It is quashed.

The Chief Justice—That would be the effect of your contention.

Mr. Slade said his contention was that the lease had been surrendered for a monthly tenancy which was in existence up to the 15th March and which had been put an end to by a valid notice to quit. In reference to the argument that this was done under duress this was not pleaded. In their answer the defendants did not set up a set of facts which amounted to duress in law, and even if those facts did amount to duress, and he submitted that they did not—it could only make the lease a voidable one, and that on the face of the pleadings had been forfeited for nearly a year. The facts set up in the answer only amounted to a statement of intention when the defendants accepted this increase of rent.

Mr. Robinson asked leave to amend the answer by adding the words "under protest" after the words "wrongfully," and before "demand of \$85 per Chinese month."

Mr. Slade did not object and the words were added.

After some further argument.

The Chief Justice said the point taken by Mr. Slade went to the root of the whole case and was a point of some nicety. He did not think he ought to decide it off-hand. He thought he ought to take some time to consider.

The hearing was accordingly adjourned until Wednesday next, when his Lordship will give his decision on the point.

THE CHARGE AGAINST MR. H. F. CARMICHAEL.

The hearing of the charge against Mr. Hugh Fletcher Carmichael, of Carmichael and Company, Limited, was resumed before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy on Thursday morning, 3rd inst.

Mr. Pollock, Q.C., who was prosecuting, said he wished to add two more counts to the charge, as follows:—

(5) That he, the said Hugh Fletcher Carmichael, did, with intent to defraud, forge a transfer of a certain share and interest in certain capital stock, to wit, ten shares numbered 1020/1029 in Carmichael and Company, Limited, a company established in this colony by virtue of the Companies Ordinances, 1865 to 1890, which said transfer purported to be a transfer of the said ten shares from one John Harper to the said Hugh Fletcher Carmichael.

(6) That he, the said Hugh Fletcher Carmichael, did, with intent to defraud, offer, utter, dispose of and put off a forged transfer of a certain share and interest in a certain capital stock, to wit, ten shares numbered 1020/1029 in Carmichael and Company, Limited, a company established in this colony by virtue of the Companies Ordinances, 1865 to 1890, which said transfer purported to be a transfer of the said ten shares from John Harper to the said Hugh Fletcher Carmichael—he, the said Hugh Fletcher Carmichael, at the time he so uttered the said forged transfer of the said stock, well knowing it to be forged.

Mr. Slade, who appears on behalf of Mr. Carmichael, strongly objected to the insertion of these two counts, but his worship finally decided to accept them, and to hear evidence on them along with the others.

Mr. O. S. Sharp, partner in the firm of Gibb, Livingston, & Co., was the first witness called. He said his firm were agents for the s.s. *Catterthun*.

Mr. Pollock: Was that vessel sunk off the coast of Australia?

Mr. Slade: How can this witness answer such a question? I object.

Mr. Pollock: My friend need neither be so emphatic nor so energetic.

Mr. Slade: My objection is really only formal, to keep my friend in order. How can the witness prove that?

His Worship: Was he (the witness) on board?

Witness: No.

Mr. Pollock: Have you received advices from your agents in Australia?

Mr. Slade: I object to hearing the contents of any advices.

Mr. Pollock: Have you received advices from the agents of the Eastern and Australian Steamship Company at Australia containing a reference to the loss of the *Cutterthun*?

Mr. Slade: I object, because my friend is not entitled to ask the witness the contents of letters received from a third party.

His Worship: I do not see that any such question should be asked. Has the letter been described?

Mr. Pollock: I propose to produce the letter. It is in there (in a book in witness's hand).

Mr. Slade: I object to the letter. It is very hard lines to have to teach my friend how to put questions. I don't like to tell him how to put questions.

Mr. Pollock retorted that the question suggested would be absolutely idiotic.

Mr. Hazeland: I have disallowed your question, Mr. Pollock.

Mr. Pollock: Have you got, Mr. Sharp, a letter book containing letters from your agent in Australia?

Witness: I have letters from the managing agents of the Eastern and Australian Steamship Company, Limited.

Mr. Slade: Oh, that is all right. It is only a private matter, then, between you and witness. A letter is in exactly the same position as verbal evidence. A letter written by a man in Australia is not evidence against Mr. Carmichael, especially in a criminal case, unless I have the writer here to cross-examine him.

His Worship: I don't know what the letter is.

Mr. Slade: Nor do I; but I don't want anything here which is not evidence in the case.

Mr. Pollock: I won't press the question. I have nothing further to ask the witness.

Mr. Slade: I have no questions.

Mr. A. P. Gutierrez, clerk in charge of the Mercantile Marine Office, said he had been in that office for the past 22 years, and, as clerk in charge, the crews of ships signed their articles of agreement before him.

Mr. Pollock: Are these the articles of agreement of the crew of the *Catterthun*?

Mr. Slade: I object. How can these articles be evidence against Mr. Carmichael?

Mr. Pollock: They are to identify the signature of Mr. Harper.

Mr. Slade: This witness will only be repeating what some one else has said to him.

His Worship: Did you know J. Harper?

Witness: I might have seen him, but I do not know him.

After some discussion regarding the admissibility of the articles as evidence, witness was told to stand down.

The witness Archibald Ritchie, who gave evidence at the previous hearing, failed to answer to his name.

Mr. Slade: I have some very important questions to ask him.

A constable was sent to Ritchie's place of business to fetch him.

Mr. Pollock: There is one witness I might call to-day, Archibald Harper. He is going away.

After discussion as to the advisability of hearing Archibald Harper's evidence at this stage, his name was called three times, but he, too, failed to answer, and a constable was despatched to ascertain whether the steamer *Whampoa*, on which Harper is employed, had left.

His Worship decided to hear evidence regarding the serving of the subpoena.

John Godfrey said he served the subpoena on Archibald Harper on the 2nd inst. in his mess room on board the s.s. *Whampoa*. Before serving it he asked if the man's name was Archibald Harper, and he replied that it was. He, however, said he could not be sure of attending court, as, if the ship left in the morning, he must of necessity go with her.

Mr. Pollock: What did you say to that?

Witness: I had nothing to say. It had nothing to do with me.

Mr. Pollock: Has the steamer gone?

Witness: I do not know.

On the application of Mr. Pollock, a warrant was issued.

William Edward Wilson, who gave evidence on the first hearing of the case, again went into the box, and was questioned by Mr. Pollock, who asked him to produce the minute book of Carmichael and Company.

Mr. Pollock: Is there any entry there of a meeting being held with reference to issuing a fresh certificate for John Harper's ten shares? The date will be about the 23rd of April, 1896.

Mr. Slade: Of course, your worship, I could take objection to this, but there have been so many objections already that I shall not do so.

Witness: The entry is here, signed by R. E. Humphreys on April 21st, 1896.

At this point Sergeant O'Sullivan entered court and reported that Mr. Ritchie was not in his office; he had gone to Quarry Bay.

A warrant in this case also was issued, Sergeant O'Sullivan being instructed to serve and also that for Archibald Harper.

Continuing, Mr. Pollock asked if the witness had said that the company was established in colony by virtue of the Ordinance.

His Worship: That is very evident; it could not be a company otherwise.

Mr. Slade: Just a waste of time, your worship.

Mr. Pollock: Was Mr. Carmichael's name ever put on the register as the owner of the ten shares, 1020—1029?

Mr. Slade pointed out that the existence of that entry had already been established.

Mr. Pollock: Can you tell us whether an actual scrip for these ten shares was ever issued in Carmichael's name.

To facilitate matters, the register was handed to Mr. Carmichael, who turned up the scrip enquired for. The scrip was issued in the name of Hugh Carmichael, and signed by R. E. Humphreys and H. Carmichael, as directors.

Q: Did you know any other H. Carmichael or Hugh Carmichael than the defendant?

A: No.

Q: Is there any entry in the minute book with reference to that scrip being issued?

A: There is no entry.

Cross-examined by Mr. Slade, witness said he was present at the general meeting of Carmichael and Company on 5th December.

Q: Was the business before the meeting the voluntary winding-up of the company's affairs?

A: Yes.

Q: On that occasion was Mr. Hurley present?

A: He was.

Q: To what day was that meeting adjourned?

A: The next day.

Q: What was done the next day?

A: I believe Mr. Carmichael further adjourned the meeting till the following week.

Q: At that time, either at the meeting or elsewhere, did you hear Mr. Hurley use words to the effect that Mr. Carmichael would not be present at the adjourned meeting?

A: Yes.

Q: When was this?

A: On the 6th. (After a pause)—I did not really hear Mr. Hurley say the words, but heard that he said so.

Mr. Pollock at this point objected to the nature of the cross-examination, contending that the questions were not relevant.

Mr. Slade protested that it was very relevant to himself and to his client to find out that Mr. Hurley had procured the arrest of Mr. Carmichael on the day of the meeting, especially when it was remembered that Mr. Carmichael held all the proxies for the winding-up of the company. Mr. Slade then continued.

Q: In consequence of the arrest of Mr. Carmichael, what happened?

A: We declared it no meeting. The resolution for winding-up was not put.

Q: It was indefinitely postponed?

A: Yes.

Q: Have you the ledger of Carmichael and Company for 1896-97?

A: Yes.

Q: Will you turn up Harper's account?

Witness did so. The entry relating to Harper's account read—"Harper, *Shans*, \$10."

The date was 22nd December, 1898.

Q: Will you also produce the rough cash book?

This was done, when a corresponding entry was found.

Q: Whose handwriting is that?

A: Mr. Carmichael's.

Mr. Pollock interrupted to say that there was no evidence as to who kept the books or in whose handwriting they were; and further, he would also submit that the fact that certain entries were made by a certain man was not evidence.

Mr. Slade contended that it was evidence. It was exceedingly cruel to keep this charge hanging over the defendant's head when it could be shown from the books that no case of fraud could be established.

Mr. Pollock: As to that, I am sorry I cannot assent to any friend's suggestion. I have one other, a most important witness, if we can only get hold of him.

Mr. Slade: You might easily have kept Mr. Harper here if you had wanted to do so.

Mr. Pollock: Well, we did our best. I don't see what my friend would have had us to, short of keeping him in a cage.

At this point Sergeant O'Sullivan returned with Archibald Ritchie, who was put into the witness-box.

His Worship: Why were you not present this morning?

Witness: Your Worship, there was a misunderstanding. I thought I was to receive another subpoena.

His Worship: You knew very well your cross-examination had not been concluded.

Mr. Slade then took up the cross-examination of the witness.

Q: When you were in Carmichael & Co., did you help to keep the books?

A: Well, I was an assistant.

Q: Will you answer the question—yes or no?

A: Yes.

Q: You know the books kept? There was a small rough cash book?

A: Yes.

Q: In that book entries were kept of cash paid, and copied into the clean cash book?

A: The entries were copied from that.

Q.: There were several rough cash books?
 A.: Yes.
 Q.: Is this the cash book of the firm for 1898?
 A.: Yes, that is one of them.
 Q.: Look over the book, and just tell me if you recognise the handwriting. Whose is this?
 Witness, after a long inspection, thought the specimen pointed out was in Mr. Hyndman's.
 Q.: It is Mr. Hyndman's. You know that.
 A.: Yes, (after a pause).
 Q.: And Mr. Hyndman is a partner in your firm, isn't he?
 A.: Yes.
 Q.: You see that entry: "Dividend account, 370, Harper, *Shansi*, \$10?" Is that your handwriting?
 A.: Yes. The date is 19th April, 1899.
 Q.: Did you copy that entry from this entry in the rough cash book?
 A.: Yes, I copied it from the rough cash book into the clean cash book.
 Q.: When was it you said you bought these shares from Harper?
 A.: In December, 1898.
 Q.: That entry in these books refers to the dividend on the ten shares, doesn't it?
 A.: Yes.
 Q.: Now, Mr. Ritchie, you say you actually paid cash to Harper for those ten shares in December, 1898? Is that it?
 A.: Yes.
 Q.: How comes it, then, you entered in the books the payment of a dividend for 1898 which was paid in the spring of 1899?
 A.: I paid cash to Harper for the shares in 1898. The date is in pencil, and it might have been put there since.
 His Worship: Do you suggest it has been put there since?
 The witness examined the rough cash book again, but made no reply.
 Q.: You paid the dividend in respect of these ten shares to Harper when they really belonged to you, according to your statement?
 A.: That is just as it is copied from the rough cash book.
 Q.: Can you give any explanation?
 A.: About the entry in the rough cash book?
 Q.: The dividend on the ten shares from Harper?
 There was no reply.
 Q.: Isn't the explanation perfectly simple—that you did not buy these shares until December, 1899?
 Mr. Slade here handed the witness the receipt signed by Archibald Harper for \$100 in respect of ten shares bought by Ritchie, and asked him to examine the date—whether it was 1898 or 1899.
 A.: It looks like a "9".
 Q.: Will you please answer the question—Was it or was it not a "9"?
 A.: '98 was the —
 Q.: No, no. Was it not originally written "22nd December, 1899," and afterwards altered to "1898"?
 A.: Yes.
 Q.: Was not that the actual date on which you paid the cash?
 A.: I don't remember when I gave him the money.
 His Worship: You don't remember when you gave him the money, yet you signed the receipt on that date?
 A.: Well, he received the money before I actually signed the receipt.
 Q.: The date at the top and the body of the receipt is in your writing, and the signature at the bottom in Harper's?
 A.: Yes.
 Q.: You paid this money personally, and afterwards you gave him this formal receipt and asked him to fill it up?
 A.: Yes.
 Q.: That was in your office.
 A.: No, on board the ship.
 Q.: You took this receipt, already written out, on board the ship, and Harper signed it there?
 A.: Yes.
 His Worship: What is the name of the ship.
 A.: The *Shansi*.
 Q.: Was not that in December, 1899?
 A.: My best recollection is 1898.
 The hearing was at this point adjourned till after tiffin, when His Worship took up the examination of the witness.

Bench: When did you leave Carmichael and Company?
 A.: In 1899—October, I think?
 Bench: Where are Carmichael's offices now?
 A.: In Queen's Buildings.
 Bench: Where were the offices prior to Queen's Buildings?
 A.: In the old Praya.
 Bench: When did they move from the old Praya to Queen's Buildings?
 A.: I think it was in 1899.
 Bench: Can't you remember? Was it at the New Year?
 A.: I think it was.
 Bench: With reference to this receipt, it was written in the office, was it, before the steamer came in?
 A.: I think it was.
 Bench: Can't you remember when you went on board the steamer to get Harper's receipt? Was it in the morning?
 A.: Yes, before tiffin.
 Bench: Was the receipt written out the day before the steamer came in?
 A.: Yes.
 Bench: The steamer came in on the 23rd?
 A.: Yes.
 This was verified by turning up the newspaper files for 23rd December, 1899.
 Bench: Do you still tell me that the receipt was signed by A. Harper in 1898?
 A.: That is one of the —
 Bench: No, no; you see the ship was not in the harbour on the 23rd of December, 1898.
 No reply.
 Bench: You say the date on the receipt has been altered. When you took that receipt on board was it altered?
 A.: It was altered on board the ship.
 Bench: What is your explanation about the *Shansi*?
 A.: Well, I am not sure that it was the *Shansi*. It might have been the *Whampoa*. The files were again turned up, but the *Whampoa* was not notified amongst the arrivals on 23rd December, 1898.
 Bench: Now, I want you to explain this receipt—"Received from A. Ritchie the sum of \$100 for ten shares in the firm of Carmichael and Company, Ltd., transferred to his name and purchased from me." Purchased from whom?
 A.: Harper.
 Bench: "Transferred to his name." Whose name?
 A.: Transferred to me.
 This concluded the examination of the witness, and Sergeant O'Sullivan having found Archibald Harper, the latter was put in the box. Archibald Harper, engineer on board the *Whampoa*, deposed that John Harper was a brother of his; he was dead now.
 Mr. Slade contended that this statement could not be proved, and therefore it was not evidence. The only thing the witness could prove was that he had not seen his brother for a number of years.
 Continuing, the witness said that his brother was formerly second engineer on the *Catterthun*, and owned some shares in Carmichael and Company.
 Mr. Slade—How does he know that?
 Mr. Pollock—That will be shown.
 Witness had sold those ten shares to Mr. Ritchie. Witness could not not say the month, but it was in 1899—about the beginning. Witness at that time was employed on the steamer *Shansi*. Ritchie paid him \$100 for the ten shares. Witness gave him a receipt for the money, at the time he got the money. Ritchie at first was doubtful whether he would buy the shares. He had no transactions as regarded the shares with Ritchie until 1899. The money for the shares was paid about March or April, 1899. The receipt produced was the one he signed for \$100. The date underneath his signature was December, 1899. He wished to correct his statement that the money was paid in March or April, and was quite sure it was 1899, in December. He had no recollection how the date in the receipt came to be altered; at any rate, it was all right when it left him. The signature "John Harper" in the transfer of shares produced was not unlike his brother's handwriting, but it was so long since he had seen any that he could not be quite positive. The date on the stamp was not decipherable and he could not, as Mr. Pollock sug-

gested, see 16-10-97 on it. The reason he sold the shares was that he never got any dividend; besides, he had heard that the company was not doing very well. He was paid but one dividend for his brother, the amount being credited to a bill his brother owed Carmichael and Company. That was in 1895, and witness had never received any payments since. He left his employment on the *Shansi* eighteen months ago, and was on the *Shansi* when the receipt was signed. He could not, however, be at all sure of the day. Referring to his brother, witness said he was employed on the *Catterthun* for about six years, as fourth, third, second, and chief engineer. Witness did not take out any deeds of administration to his brother, nor had any one else. Witness had no writings of John Harper in his possession. He had never heard of any other John Harper than his brother having been employed on board the *Catterthun*. The deceased man was born in Scotland, and would be between 29 and 30 at the time of his death. If witness saw the ship's articles, he probably would be able to identify his brother's handwriting.

The articles were thereupon handed to him by Mr. Pollock, and on the second page, in "J. Harper," he recognised his signature. The signatures on pages 16 and 17 were also his brother's. Witness was not aware of any transfer of shares by his brother to "H. Carmichael." When he sold the shares to Ritchie, he imagined them to be in his, A. Harper's name. Mr. Carmichael had never told him that these ten shares were in his (Carmichael's) name.

Cross-examined by Mr. Slade, witness said he took possession of his brother's property when he was drowned. He paid his bills, and the remnants of the property he took over himself. He knew that in 1895 his brother and Mr. Carmichael were great friends. It was the case that his brother had a bill at Carmichael's, and that at that time there was a dividend due on these ten shares, from which the amount of the bill was deducted. On his brother's death, witness took Mr. Carmichael's word that the shares became his property. He had had numerous dealings in the way of business with Mr. Carmichael, and when he paid anything on account, the amount was deducted—not specifically—from the next bill. In that case, a dividend might have been credited to his account without his knowing it. He knew nothing whatever about the transfer to Mr. Carmichael.

Re-examined by Mr. Pollock, accounts were generally rendered to him by Carmichael and Company once a month. The *Shansi* was here in December, 1898. It was going from Hongkong to Shanghai.

His Worship, to verify this statement, if possible, turned up the newspaper files, but could not find the ship's arrival notified on the date mentioned.

Continuing, witness said he could not tell whether he was in Hongkong in April, 1899.

The witness was then allowed to stand down, as his ship was to sail at four o'clock.

Mr. Wilson was then recalled by Mr. Pollock, nothing new, however, being elicited.

The hearing was ultimately adjourned till Monday, 7th January, Mr. Carmichael being released on his own recognisances on bail of \$100. The previous bail was \$2,500.

The hearing was concluded before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy on Monday afternoon, 7th inst.

Mr. Pollock asked permission to add to each of the six counts, after the word "did," the words "on the 16th day of October, at Victoria, in this colony."

No objection was offered by Mr. Slade, and the counts were amended accordingly.

Mr. Pollock then recalled Mr. W. Hutton Potts, who turned up in the minute book of Carmichael and Co. the date on which a fresh scrip was issued in the name of John Harper. Witness made the minute of the meeting, which he, of course, attended. The date of that meeting was in April, 1896.

Mr. G. W. F. Playfair, chief manager of the National Bank of China, was next called, and gave evidence as to business dealings between the defendant and the bank.

Mr. Pollock then intimated that the case for the prosecution was complete. If Mr. Slade

did not propose to call any witnesses, he would proceed to sum up.

Mr. Slade—I don't wish to call any witnesses.

Mr. Pollock, in summing up, said it would be better, perhaps, if he went into one or two points of law by way of preliminary, in order to show the legal aspect of the case as it presented itself to the prosecution. His Worship would have noted, no doubt, in the first and third counts contained in the charge—

Mr. Slade at this point interrupted to ask that Mr. Wilson and Mr. Potts be allowed to return to their business, which request his Worship granted.

Mr. Pollock, continuing, said—In the first place the defendant was charged with making a false entry. Now, it was perfectly clear from the evidence that the defendant with his own hand did not make that entry. The entry was made, as he would submit upon the evidence, from the procurement by the defendant, Mr. Carmichael, of Mr. Potts, the secretary of the company, he being clearly an innocent agent in the matter; and in any point concerning the procurement of an innocent agent for any unlawful purpose, the person who so procured was considered in point of law as a principal. The general principle was laid down in the fourth edition of *Steven's Digest of Criminal Law*. It would be perhaps advisable, however, continued Mr. Pollock, to quote one or two cases, and this he proceeded to do. As to the charge of forgery, the duty devolving upon his Worship was to decide whether there was not sufficient evidence to go to a jury upon which they might convict the defendant of the crime with which he stood charged. It was not for the magistrate to ask himself whether he would or would not, as a jury, convict, supposing he were in the position of a jury. The magistrate had simply to ask himself the question whether or not there was a *prima facie* case—some evidence by which the jury might find that a crime had actually been committed.

With regard to the fifth count his Worship would no doubt have noted that under that count a conviction might be brought against the defendant by a jury upon various sets of fact. A jury might look at the case from three points of view and yet might convict the defendant under that count charging the defendant with forgery. First a jury might ask—did the defendant forge that document with his own hand; secondly, they might ask themselves whether the defendant, supposing they thought there was not sufficient evidence of the defendant having forged the document with his own hand, got some other person to forge the document for him; or again it would be open to the jury to find that the defendant was accessory to the forging of the document; because his Worship would know that under the provisions of Ordinance 5 of 1865—section 1, any accessory before the fact of a forgery might be tried and convicted and punished in all respects as though he were the principal of the forgery. Of course his Worship would have gathered that their contention in this case was that Mr. Carmichael, the defendant in this case, had fallen necessarily under one or other of these three aspects. He would submit to his Worship that it was absolutely impossible to suppose, from the facts which had been before the Court, that Mr. Carmichael did not either himself with his own hand write the words "John Harper" on the instrument of transfer, or else if he did not write those words with his own hand that he was not perfectly well aware that whoever wrote those words was committing a forgery—was signing the name of a man already dead. He would ask his Worship to study carefully the writing on the instrument of transfer, and he thought his Worship would see that it was written in a peculiar way. It looked rather a sort of cramped hand.

His Worship—His brother said it looked like his brother's.

Mr. Pollock, continuing, said that when a man first saw writing of that sort he could not of a sudden jump to the conclusion that it was a forgery. He would naturally at once think that his brother had written it. But his Worship would remember in connection with that point that when the ship's articles were shown to him the witness was, as the Chinese said, nine-tenths sure that those articles were signed by his brother; and if his Worship would compare the signature on the articles with the

signature on the instrument of transfer he would come to the conclusion that they were obviously written by a different hand. Further, he thought he could show most plainly that John Harper could not have signed that instrument of transfer, because of the provisions of the Stamp Ordinance in this colony. Section 4 of Ordinance 26 of 1895 substituted a new section for section 10 of the Stamp Ordinance previously in existence. He would draw his Worship's special attention to the fact that although under that section certain documents might be stamped after execution where the collector of stamp duty was satisfied that "the omission or neglect to stamp or to stamp sufficiently did not arise from any intention to evade payment of stamp duty or otherwise to defraud," it was most expressly provided that, amongst other things, transfers of shares should not be stamped until the numbers of the shares and the consideration money were entered, nor might they if executed within the colony be stamped after execution. Therefore his Worship saw that that brought matters down to a very fine point. They knew that there was an instrument of transfer bearing date October 16th, 1897. Therefore it came to this, that some time on the 16th October, 1897, that transfer of shares must have been executed. He had already submitted to his Worship that whether the defendant signed the transfer or not it was signed by someone who was not John Harper, and he thought his Worship would see that that must be so. His Worship would remember that in answer to his learned friend Mr. Archibald Harper, the brother of John Harper, told them that in 1895 his brother, John Harper, and the defendant were great friends. People could not be great friends without being able to identify one another when they met, and he submitted that it was abundantly clear that Mr. Carmichael must have known, whether he or someone else executed the transfer in the name of John Harper, that it was not John Harper who executed that transfer. Further, his Worship would see that he himself purported by that transfer to have witnessed the signature. Therefore, he would see that the transfer was made out by somebody. Another important point for his Worship to bear in mind in this connection was that the defendant was present, as appeared from Mr. Potts's evidence and from the minute book, on the 27th April, 1896, at a board meeting of directors of Carmichael and Company when it was decided to issue further scrip in the name of John Harper in the place of the scrip lost in the *Catterthun*. Therefore a jury would be bound to find that the defendant himself signed that "John Harper" or that somebody else signed it, and that he knew that the somebody else who signed it was not John Harper. The defendant must have known at that time that these shares were being wrongfully and improperly transferred to his own name. It had not been suggested in the course of the cross-examination that the defendant gave any value for these shares. It had not been suggested that he had any claim upon these shares. It had not been suggested that he had any right to have these shares transferred to his name, and yet he was a party to this instrument of transfer of 16th October, 1897, by which these shares were transferred to his name. Touching the question as to whether there was any intent to defraud, he submitted that this was a proper case to send before a jury for them to say whether, under all the circumstances, there was an intent to defraud. Mr. Pollock proceeded to quote several cases in support of his contentions, and in conclusion said that it ought to be laid before a jury for them to say as commercial men and men of business whether there was intent to defraud on the part of the defendant or not.

Mr. Slade, in his address for the defence, said they had heard a great many reasons advanced by Mr. Pollock in his most strenuous endeavour to persuade his Worship to send Mr. Carmichael for trial before a jury and thus gratify the poisonous spite of Hurley. It was perfectly obvious how this prosecution had originated and how it had been carried out—it was simply owing to the spite of Hurley. Hurley swore the information, but he had not the courage to go into the witness-box, and he had Mr. Carmichael arrested on the very day when the

meeting was to have been held at which Mr. Hurley did not want Mr. Carmichael to be present. That was why and how this prosecution started, and one could well see why Mr. Hurley was so anxious that his Worship should commit the case for trial, because he knew perfectly well the exceedingly uncomfortable consequences which he would have to suffer if the case were not sent for trial. There was an Ordinance—14 of 1845—dealing with malicious prosecutions, the offender being liable to imprisonment. The only solitary fact around which Mr. Pollock's eloquence had turned was that in 1897, on the date of the stamp of the transfer deed in question, John Harper was dead. As a matter of fact the death of John Harper had not been proved, but assuming for one moment that his Worship was satisfied that John Harper was dead, from that fact grew the whole of Mr. Pollock's eloquence. Mr. Pollock in his apparent anxiety to secure this man's commitment appeared entirely to have forgotten the beneficial presumption of English law which ran in favour of every prisoner—that he should not be presumed to be guilty of anything until it had been proved against him, and Mr. Pollock had utterly failed to prove that John Harper did not himself sign that transfer deed before he died in the presence of Carmichael out of the colony. That was a perfectly simple explanation of how that transfer deed came into existence. When the script was lost with the *Catterthun* the easiest way of letting John Harper's representative have the benefit of the shares was to transfer them into his own name and then transfer them out again when they were wanted.

Mr. Pollock—The Stamp Ordinance.

Mr. Slade, continuing, said Mr. Pollock had forgotten that a document was often brought into the colony and was stamped after execution. One had heard of many documents being presented at the Stamp Office as having just been brought into the colony, whereas they might have been in the colony for years, and a stamp was put on as a matter of course. The brother came there and said, "Yes, I think that is John Harper's signature." So far as any evidence went, that was John Harper's signature. There was another way how this thing might have occurred—that Mr. Carmichael had the authority of John Harper to transfer the shares to his own name. They had heard from Mr. Archibald Harper how after the death of his brother he assumed the duties of his executor. Was it not perfectly possible and consistent with his evidence that he authorised Carmichael to transfer these shares into his name? Archibald Harper simply said he knew nothing about the transfer. That was the only question he was asked. His learned friend interjected, why did not he ask him? It was through that in all probability he had been got at by Hurley. He thought it probable that Hurley had threatened him—had made him afraid to speak the truth. It was not for him to ask the question, but for his learned friend, if he wanted to prove Carmichael's guilt. The only person who could really explain these matters was Mr. Carmichael himself, and his mouth was shut—he could not say what really took place. Therein came the devilish ingenuity of Hurley. Hurley knew there was only one man who could speak, and he accordingly made this charge against him. If his Worship would look at the signature to the transfer and compare it with the writing of Archibald Harper, he thought he would be struck with the very marked resemblance. He had no right to say they were identical, but those two signatures might very well have been written by the same hand. In dealing with the three points raised by Mr. Pollock, Mr. Slade contended that there was not a tittle of evidence to show that Carmichael signed the transfer in John Harper's name or that he got it signed by someone else, and added that the mere writing of a man's name was not in itself forgery. Forgery meant false writing with intent to defraud. The intent to defraud was the essential part of the crime. It was a thing which must be proved up to the hilt, or else there was no crime of forgery. It devolved upon the prosecution to prove intent to defraud. How did they attempt to satisfy this? They attempted to satisfy it in the first place by calling Ritchie, who swore that he paid for these shares in December, 1896, and that from

December, 1898, to October, 1899, he kept pressing Carmichael, who kept excusing himself from transferring these shares, and that thereby Carmichael showed an obvious intention to retain the shares for his own use. He submitted that the evidence of Ritchie had most hopelessly broken down. He submitted that the figures 1899 had been altered to 1898 simply for the purposes of that case—for the purpose of trying to get a commitment against an innocent man.

His Worship said he had examined the figures through a watchmaker's glass, and he could see distinctly that there was a 9 which had been altered to 8.

Mr. Slade, continuing, said it was perfectly obvious that the money for the shares was paid in 1899, and yet Mr. Ritchie went into the box and stuck to it through thick and thin that the money was paid in 1898. "Ritchie apparently had no interest; apparently he was a free and independent witness brought there by force by subpoena, yet he, beyond a shadow of doubt, must have most deliberately lied in reference to the date in which he paid the money. Mr. Slade proceeded to ridicule the idea of a man in Mr. Carmichael's position attempting fraud of this kind for the sake of \$100 worth of shares in a company in which he held nine-tenths of the shares, and in conclusion submitted that the case was not one to be sent before a jury, and asked his Worship to discharge the defendant.

His Worship, after recapitulating the six counts, said that before the defendant could possibly be convicted under any one of these six counts it was absolutely necessary that an intent to defraud should be proved. What was the meaning of the words "intent to defraud?" He did not know that he could give a better meaning than that expressed by Chief Baron Pollock, "to defraud means to cheat a person out of something." The story of the prosecution was that ten shares were sold by Archibald Harper to Ritchie on the 22nd December, 1898. After the purchase of the shares Ritchie was constantly pressing that they should be transferred and that it was not until the 27th October, 1899, that the shares were transferred. To support this allegation Ritchie was put into the box and he swore absolutely that he had purchased these shares on the 22nd December, 1898. He had examined the figures, and he had no doubt that 1898 had been altered from 1899. The figure was simply altered with the object of trumping up this allegation of intent to defraud. He considered that the defendant was not guilty and ordered his discharge.

Mr. Slade made an application under section 832 of Ordinance 14 of 1845, which provides for amends being awarded for frivolous information, asking that Hurley should be ordered to pay the costs, but

His Worship could not see his way to accede to the request, observing that it would be for Carmichael to prove malice.

REVIEWS.

Tropical Diseases: A Manual of the Diseases of Warm Climates. BY PATRICK MANSON, C.M.G., M.D., LL.D. Revised and enlarged edition. London, Cassell & Co. (Second Notice.)

After Malaria the subject of most interest to us locally in Hongkong is Bubonic Plague, which, since the last edition of Dr. Manson's work, has spread to Mauritius, Madagascar, Delagoa Bay, Australia and South America, and since the book was printed, to Lisbon and Glasgow. There can now unfortunately be no doubt as to the inoculability of plague, since the accident to and death of the Vienna student whilst manipulating plague cultures, no epidemic then existing; previous experiments, whether accidental or intentional (including that of Oyama, which occurred here) having taken place under circumstances which might have given rise to infection in other ways. I may say that plague inoculation by means of a prick or scratch is mentioned by Ainsworth in *Old St. Pauls*. Dr. Manson states that plague was probably imported into Bombay from Hongkong, but as he, a few lines previously, notes that plague is always present in some part of India, it is surely more likely that the epidemic was brought over

Hongkong is in bi-weekly communication by sea with Pakhoi. A severe epidemic of plague occurred there in 1883. Plague was undoubtedly present for ten years previously, yet no case occurred in Hongkong until 1894, by which time the disease had travelled overland to Canton, whence we were infected. Special attention is drawn to the spread of infection by means of rats, and the necessity for destroying these vermin. Locally much has been done in this connection, but I cannot say it leads to much tangible result. On ship-board, where passengers are brought into such close proximity with rats, this danger is specially important. In one of the cabins of a steamer in which two Europeans got plague, dead infected rats were found immediately behind the bunks. Likewise Mongolian and Siberian plague was found to be accompanied and spread by a similar disease amongst a species of marmot.

The author states (p. 167) that bubonic plague is common to man and many of the lower animals. Rats and marmots are so far the only animals known to suffer from plague, unless deliberately infected. Rinderpest is not plague, though at one time thought to be the same disease. When the plague was in South China pigs were dying of some disease, but it did not prove to be plague.

"Plague depends on social and hygienic rather than on climatic conditions, more especially on filth and overcrowding saturation of soil with animal refuse, body vermin and other vermin spread disease. It is not so infectious as scarlet fever, measles or even typhus." (The author has not seen any of the Irish epidemics of this disease else he would have omitted the adverb). "Particular floors of houses are infected, other floors escaping." This is a fact of which the writer has personal knowledge, and is difficult to fit in with the rat theory of infection; they certainly do not confine their visits to one floor.

The incubation period may extend to 15 days, in a case which occurred recently on board a mail steamer the incubation period was 14 days. The longest period previously noted in Hongkong was 10 days and this was exceptional. This is most important in its bearing on quarantine regulations and the consequent inconvenience and loss to shippers.

In Dr. Manson's description of the disease the symptoms are much too pronounced; of course such typical cases occur and a tyro could recognise them, but, more particularly in the 1896-98 epidemic in Hongkong, many cases occurred in which diagnosis was most difficult, almost impossible, without microscopical examination of the blood or contents of buboes.

It is remarked that whilst the handling of a rat recently dead of plague is dangerous, one which is cold and stiff may be touched with impunity, the explanation being that fleas have abandoned the latter and that it is through their bites the disease is inoculated.

Pneumonic plague is both most fatal and most infectious, we can guard our feet and hands from inoculation, but it is difficult to safeguard the respiratory organs from taking in infection, except by diluting the latter by the free use of fresh air and abundance of ventilation.

It has been noticed that certain outbreaks of plague were preceded by a sporadic or epidemic affection in which the lymphatic glands were enlarged. On p. 184 the author says such cases are of great importance in their bearing on the spread and prevention of the graver disease, whilst on p. 651, speaking of similar buboes, now called climatic, the author states "there are no adequate reasons for supposing, as has been conjectured, that the disease has any connection with plague or that it is a form of pestis minor."

Speaking of personal prophylaxis the author says: "Hospital work is only dangerous when patients are allowed to lie in their infected clothing, when disinfectants are not properly used, and when attendants are careless, stupid or rash." The writer has personal knowledge of three deaths amongst Europeans occurring through the last-named cause. The serum treatment of plague is declared, as we found it here, a failure. Haffkine's inoculation meets with qualified approval.

Speaking of some anomalous types of dysentery Daniels describes a disease of high fatality amongst Polynesians, occurring also in emigrant ships, showing a high degree of infective-

ness, with diphtheretic lesions and great mortality, very similar to that which was prevalent amongst the returned soldiers in Japan in 1898-9 and spread from them to the civil population with disastrous results.

A subject of interest to holiday-makers in Japan is that the so-called river-fever is due to exhalations from, and poisoning by, hemp-water, and the author also notes "that many globe-trotters suffer from typhoid after visiting Japan," probably due to carelessness in using polluted water. Impure water, the author points out, may be responsible for quite an army of diseases, typhoid, cholera, dysentery possibly spruce developed from dysentery, diarrhoea, perhaps malaria, ankylostoma, guinea worm, "sleeping sickness," worms, leeches getting into stomach, filaria, bilharzia, &c., &c.

In contradistinction to most accepted authorities the author states that true sun-fever or Sirissis has a very limited area of distribution, "being rigidly confined to certain low-lying sea-coast districts and to the valleys of certain rivers," so that the diagnosis of such cases reported in Hongkong must have been erroneous.

The cause moreover is a germ akin to that of yellow fever. Speaking of fevers generally the author notes the confusion in and unreliability of army statistics, owing to the fact that every fever of short duration must appear in the returns as "ague." "This misleading, slovenly, not to say dangerous practice must have had a powerful influence in retarding the study of pyretology in the tropics, at all events by our principal medical pioneers—the Army Surgeons."

Speaking of beri-beri the author states it does not occur in early childhood, but many such cases were found in one of the Orphanages here. He also points out how the crowded fore-castle of a ship, with every source of ventilation hermetically sealed, "may create an incubator on a large scale, which, should it chance to contain a beri-beri germ, quickly becomes extensively infected and lethal," words which equally well apply to many Hongkong lodging-houses. Removal from the infected area cures both in beri-beri and malaria, though in the latter the blood contains a parasite, whilst in beri-beri the author believes it does not, and is supported in this opinion by Hirota (1898.) Speaking of the recent Hamburg cholera epidemic the author shows how in its causation it was an actual counterpart of the London epidemic of 1854—improper tainted water supply. It would be well for us in Hongkong to be extremely careful in using the Pokfulam supply, which at any time might easily be polluted.

Eighty-five per cent. of liver abscesses, the author states, occur in alcoholic subjects and he specially condemns, as tending to produce this disease, the luxuriant habits of young men who on just arriving in the east change from an active and frugal life to one of "lounging on the verandah or hanging about the club bar—or he sits up at night drinking and smoking."

"Leprosy has never been shown to arise in a country *de novo*." The author points out that with commonsense precautions such as not allowing lepers to beg in the streets, to keep shops, or handle food or cloths intended for sale, or to hire themselves out as servants, leprosy being feebly contagious, would soon die out. We are too lenient in this respect with the Chinese lepers in Hongkong. The author gives a piece of advice which is most pertinent to those who would indiscriminately introduce new sanitary arrangements in Hongkong. "It is manifest that in devising sanitary regulations the habits of the people they are intended to benefit must be taken into account; if this be not attended to, if native habits and prejudices are ignored, any system, no matter how perfect it may be in theory, will fail in practice."

In concluding this imperfect review I should like to state that in Dr. Manson's book the busy practitioner will find the latest information contained in small compass. The bacteriology is brought up to date, the true causes of sleeping sickness, yellow fever, malaria, dysentery, are given, whilst Sanarelli's immunised serum for treatment of yellow fever, and the clump reaction as applied to yellow, typhoid and Malta fever is mentioned, and happily one new disease, Kala-azar, is got rid of, being only a form of malaria.

Several new plates are introduced, the letter-press generally, good before, is improved, and the headings of the different paragraphs are better defined. There are also several new plates and the more detailed descriptions of the life history of the plasmodia malariae in the mosquito are noticeable. Conciseness and proofs of untiring industry are the leading features of a work which is certainly a boon to the busy worker in the Far East.

WILLIAM HARTIGAN,
M.D., D.S.M.

As Talked in the Sanctum. By ROUNSEVELT WILDMAN, M.A., U.S. Consul-General at Hongkong. Boston, Lothrop Publishing Company.

MR. Wildman's little volume is the outcome of his experiences of the editorial chair while he conducted the *Overland Monthly*, now for the first time gathered together in book form. The result is an extremely readable production, in the author's brightest vein. When we classify the book as a nondescript we do so with no disrespect to its contents. It is indeed to this very character that it owes its entertaining qualities. Briefly described, *As Talked in the Sanctum* consists of meditations by the editor himself, interspersed with conversations with the "Contributor," "Artist," "Parson," "Manager," "Poet," "Reviewer," "Reader," (not the solitary one, we feel sure), and others, among whom we must not forget to mention the "Office Boy," who usually, however, confines himself to ending each chapter with the remark "Proof!" We cordially recommend Mr. Wildman's book as an agreeable means of passing a spare hour, and our readers, we are sure, will not be disappointed if they read it to the end.

The War Office, the Army and the Empire. By H. O. ARNOLD FOSTER, M. P. London, Cassell & Co.

THIS work, the sub-title of which is *A Review of the Military Situation in 1900*, is already familiar to the readers of this paper, in whose columns it appeared serially in the form of articles last year. It will therefore be unnecessary for us to commend it further to their notice. Mr. Arnold Foster's right to speak on the subject of which he treats here is uncontested, and he knows how to put forward his facts in a convincing way. A brief preface by Lord Rosebery accompanies the book, emphasising the grave importance of the question dealt with.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. V. R.H.K.G.C.

This match was announced to begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday last. By noon four golfers and eight cricketers were on the ground. The home club won the toss, but what was the use of going in under the circumstances? So, to make a start, the side that lost the toss was put in, contrary to all precedent. Perhaps it was placing a premium on unpunctuality. However that may be, the only chance of a start for another half hour lay in reversing the ordinary tactics. Hill and Krickenbeek hit very hard and put on 100 in half an hour; but had the chances they gave been taken neither of them would have seen 50 go up: that however was the fault of the fielding side. By tiffin when play had ruled for nearly an hour, the *Telegraph* showed 145, a big total for the time. Afterwards, Ward's bright innings was ended by a good piece of stumping, and Dyson, after a careful 21, popped one of Franklin's into slip's hands. Hay and Lowe made a large stand in point of time for the last wicket, but their cricket was not electrifying. The innings was closed with 9 wickets down for 264. At ten past three or thereabouts, the Cricket Club, with two hours left for play, opened with Ainslie and Smith. The latter proved to be in form and made runs quickly. Lumb, Nicholson, Orton and Franklin did likewise, hitting hard and losing no time. Nicholson in particular was in a happy vein, playing the best innings of the day, which included a grand big stroke for 6. With six wickets down for 230 and with time well in hand if the rate of run-getting were even approximately maintained, the ground Club seemed sure of victory. A most unfortunate run-out however, marred the situation and upset calcula-

tions. By this time moreover the light became darkness, under cover of which the bowlers finished off the enemy for a total of 249, or 15 short. Higgon and Krickenbeek were the most successful bowlers. Some of the fielding was sadly slovenly. We should like to see Hay practice wicket keeping, as he appears to have more than the rudiments of the art in him.

Appended are the score and analysis:—

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.	
Lieut. Hill, R.W.F., b Sercombe Smith	62
Lieut. Krickenbeek, 22nd B., c Lumb, b Ainslie	64
Capt. Langhorne, R.A., c Orton, b Nicholson	13
Major Sir H. McMahon, R.W.F., b Higgon	6
A. Gordon Ward, st Lumb, b Higgon	28
Major Dyson, A.P.D., c Higgon, b Franklin	21
J. F. Noble, b Higgon	12
C. H. P. Hay, not out	14
J. A. Woodgates, c Forsyth, b Higgon	5
P. A. Cox, c Nicholson, b Higgon	13
A. R. Lowe, not out	18
Extras	8

Total (9 wkts.) 264

H.K.C.C.	
T. Sercombe Smith, c Woodgates, b Langhorne	45
Capt. Ainslie, 3rd M.L.I., b Lowe	9
Lieut. Lumb, 3rd M.L.I., b Cox	44
Lieut. Nicholson, 3rd M.L.I., l.b.w., b Dyson	58
Mr. Franklin, R.N., l.b.w., b Krickenbeek	22
Lt. Orton, R.N., c Langhorne, b Krickenbeek	27
Lt. Higgon, R.W.F., run out	7
Capt. Waymouth, R.A., c Langhorne, b Krickenbeek	6
Lieut. Forsyth, b Lowe	10
J. Hooper, b Krickenbeek	0
R. J. Gerrard, not out	0
Extras	21

Total 249

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
Sercombe Smith	13	0	72	1
Forsyth	2	0	22	0
Franklin	11	2	44	1
Ainslie	5	0	25	1
Nicholson	10	2	46	1
Higgon	10	0	47	5

H.K.C.C.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
Krickenbeek	9	1	45	4
Lowe	9	3	55	2
Langhorne	4	0	18	1
Woodgates	4	0	29	0
Hill	4	0	21	0
Cox	8	0	30	1
Dyson	5	0	30	1

FOOTBALL.

V.R.C. V. "EMPERESS OF CHINA."

The Victoria Recreation Club and a team from the *Empress of China* faced each other in a football match on the racecourse at Happy Valley on Saturday afternoon last. The V.R.C. proved too strong for the sailors, who were defeated by two goals to nil.

H.K.A.F.C. V. R.A.

Owing to certain unforeseen obstacles, the team from the U.S.S. *Albany* was unable to meet the Hongkong Club, as arranged, at Happy Valley on Monday afternoon. A match, however, was played between the club and a Royal Artillery team, when the following were the sides:—

Hongkong.—Goal—Woodgates; backs—Pinckney and Russell; half-backs—Kew, Bonnar, and Howard; forwards—Lowe, Von der Pfordten, Tullock, Noble, and Clapham.

R.A.—Goal—Hogben; backs—Smith and McMurray; half-backs—Brown, Griffiths, and Stewart; forwards—Leach, Perigo, Mulvey, Hutcheson, and Robertson.

The club kicked off, and from the start it was apparent that they had it all their own way. The soldiers were too fond of skying the ball, and showed very little combination. The forwards, although fed well by the defences, very rarely managed to get past Russell and Pinckney, and as a consequence the halves and full backs had to work like niggers to keep their goal from falling. In this, to a certain extent, they were successful, as the score at the finish did not tell so heavily against them as it might otherwise have done. Brown, from a penalty kick at goal—given because Woodgates ran beyond two paces while holding the ball—succeeded, in the second half, in recording the

only goal scored by the soldiers. The club players generally were in good form, and very few chances were given or thrown away. Lowe, outside right, put in some telling work, and twice—once in the first and again in the second half—gave Noble such accurately judged passes that the latter was enabled on each occasion to place the ball between the posts. The club's new man, Von der Pfordten, playing inside right to Lowe, made a very good show, and with practice should prove a decidedly valuable acquisition. The game, which at half-time stood at 1—0 in favour of the club, ended in a win for the ground eleven by two goals to one.

One remarkable feature of the game—remarkable because the play of neither team could be called rough—was the number of men who received hurts, more or less severe. On the R.A. side, two men—Stewart and Hutcheson, the latter from an unfortunate collision with Kew—were laid on the grass, and Hutcheson had to be carried off the field, while Stewart took Hogben's place in goal. Kew, as the result of the collision that sent Hutcheson to the pavilion, was taken to the Naval Hospital suffering from a fractured ankle. There the injury was dressed, and the unfortunate player afterwards conveyed home.

RUGBY.

A Rugby match was played on Saturday afternoon last at Happy Valley, on the ground of the Hongkong Football Club, between teams captained by Lieutenant Stevens and Captain Loring. The game was very well contested, the advantage, however, lying with the latter, who had a splendid half-back in Russell. He made two magnificent runs—once in the first and again in the second half—and on each occasion secured a try, the first being converted. The score at half-time was two goals to one in favour of Captain Loring's team. Only one try, just a minute or two before the whistle sounded, was recorded in the second half, and was scored by Russell. It was not converted, however, and the game ended—Captain Loring's team, two goals and a try; Lieutenant Stevens's team, one goal. Mr. Williamson acted as referee.

The match at Happy Valley on Wednesday afternoon between Hongkong Rugby Football Club and Officers of the Navy was an excellent display of talent and skill, and quite as good as, if not better than, any previous match of the kind. The Navy, however, were the better team, and as a result most of the play took place in Club territory. Noble, playing half for the Navy, was in splendid form, and seized every opportunity, however small, of making points. He was responsible for no fewer than two of the four tries registered by his side. The score at half-time stood—Navy, 2 tries; Club, 1 try. In the second half the former team added two more tries to their total, and the game ended in a win for them by 4 tries to 1 try. The following were the sides:—

Club:—Back—"A. Tommy"; three-quarters—Grinlinton, Beattie, Tregear, and Harman; halves—Stevens and Forsyth; forwards—Bishop, Clark, Loring, Cowie, Sandford, McMurtre, and another.

Navy:—Back—Hazel; three-quarters—Chatwode, McLachlan, Longhurst, and Fothergill; halves—Noble and Gibbs; forwards—Gibson, Mackenzie, Grieve, Manley, England, Cormack, Fowler, and Rowe.

We are informed by the Agents of the Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Company, Limited (Messrs. Lutgens, Elstmann & Co.), that the meeting of shareholders it was proposed to call some time this month has been indefinitely postponed in consequence of a more favourable report having been received from the Manager on the prospects of one portion of the Mount Macdonald property. A trial crushing at the Company's battery of 21 tons of stone taken by the owners of an adjoining claim from ground at a distance of only 12 feet from the Company's boundary has, according to a telegram received on Tuesday, yielded 16 ozs. of retorted gold. As the reef runs in the direction of the Caledonian shaft, Mr. Bennecke recommends an expenditure of £200 in prospecting for this reef, which has been sanctioned by the Board. The letter relating to the above can be seen by shareholders, with other reports from the Manager, at the Company's office.

BOXING.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE FAR EAST.

Before His Excellency the Governor and the best house that has been seen at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, for very many years, a glove-fight came off on Tuesday night between Gunner Mustoe of H.M.S. *Barfleur* and the American Riley, both well-known men in the local ring, for the championship of the Far East and a purse of \$500. The big event was preceded by three lively sets-to, in which Sinclair of the *Siege Train* particularly distinguished himself, and gave promise of being fit for something more serious than an exhibition affair. For the fight of the evening both men stripped very fit, and there looked little to choose—the American perhaps seeming the closer trained of the two. The affair was an exciting one, though there was rather too much clinching indulged in to suit the strictest critics. After some even rounds the American appeared to be lasting the better, but Mustoe was as game as possible and flattered his backers. In the sixth round—twenty was the number specified for the contest—some of the audience thought Mustoe was not doing so well, and he was not as fresh as his form promised. In fact both combatants seemed short of wind too early in the contest, and fouling was freely committed by each contestant. Mustoe was guilty of a bad foul, in which he threw Riley from the hip. There was too much clinching and too little boxing for a scientific exhibition. In the seventh round the struggle unfortunately came to an end, the referee being compelled to award the fight to Mustoe—his opponent hitting a foul blow when clinching, and repeating it immediately after the Referee had shouted a warning, a decision which at first Riley strongly resented. It seemed as if the fight would continue, but Riley's better-feeling prevailed, and he accepted the award. The Referee, as usual, was found fault with, but strictly he was guided in his award by the rules of fair fighting, though considering the fouling had been conspicuous all through it would have been wiser to have ignored two hits that did little damage. Mr. Bailey filled an unenviable post conscientiously, and competent opinion believed that Mustoe eventually would have proved the better man. He hit tremendous blows, but his reach was a little too long. Mr. Con Sheshan of H.M. Naval Yard challenged the winner. Mr. W. Waters kindly acted as M.C. in the first part of the programme, and filled the position as ably as he, being one of the best-known boxers in the East, could be expected to do.

A welcome improvement to be noticed in connection with the fight was the extra padding on the corner posts. On some previous occasions the protection has been very deficient. The merits of the contest were much discussed in the colony on Wednesday, but the general impression, as far as can be gathered, is that the *Barfleur* man should have won without the decision on the foul. We hear that there is a probability of the same two men trying conclusions again.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The fifth Club Race was sailed last Sunday, the course being round Cosmopolitan Dock, Buoy (port), North Fairway Buoy (starboard), Markboat off Chunghue (starboard), Stonecutter's Island (starboard). A start was made in a light westerly air, some of the yachts being considerably impeded by a Chinese cargo-boat, which seized the opportunity of getting right into the middle of the fleet. The *Maid Marian* went away at a great pace, followed by *Bonito* and *Alannah*, with *Iris* a little outside. The wind drew farther aft as they got nearer the buoy, and then died out for a few minutes. A light north-westerly air coming in took *Maid Marian* and *Alannah* round close together, with *Iris* next, *Bonito*, which did not get the wind for some time, fourth, and *Erica* fifth. The three leaders got a long way ahead on the run to the Fairway Buoy, but were almost becalmed between there and the Markboat, thus letting the rear division close up. The wind was now about due north and the Markboat, which was supposed to be off Chunghue, but was really two miles or more nearer home, was

round by *Alannah*, which was showing very great speed in the light wind, *Iris*, *Maid Marian* and *Chanticleer*, in the order named, *Bonito* and *Gloria* together, and *Erica*, close behind, followed by *Doreen* and *Meteor*, which was sailing beautifully. Once to the west of Stonecutter's a fresh north wind was met, and *Alannah* being ahead caught it first and increased her lead, *Iris* also being well served, but on rounding the East end of Stonecutter's *Iris*, keeping straight on for Kowloon Point, ran into a calm, *Alannah* a long way ahead, having been lucky enough to get through it but being almost becalmed near the sailing ship anchorage. *Bonito*, which was leading the rest, seeing the state of affairs, at once made a board in towards the Cosmopolitan Dock, followed by most of the others, and they all worked along in shore out of the tide as much as possible, and at one time it looked as if *Alannah* would be left in a similar way to *Iris*, but she took the hint in time and working in again scored her first win with plenty of time to spare. The tide was growing stronger every minute, so that the further a boat was behind the longer it took her to crawl round the point and up to the line, which accounts for the intervals between arrivals. *Gloria*, which had seldom gone so well, was unfortunately disqualified for third place on a protest by *Bonito*; so that the *Iris* gains the one mark.

In the second class it seems impossible to handicap *Meteor* so as to give the rest a chance. The old *Sybil* made a much better show than heretofore, and, had her helmsman thought a little more of the effect of a strong lee-going tide, she would have probably been second. He will know better next time.

The official timing at the finish was:—

	1ST CLASS.	Marks.
<i>Alannah</i>	4 29 37	10
<i>Bonito</i>	4 43 14	4
<i>Gloria</i>	4 50 33	disqualified
<i>Iris</i>	4 53 22	1
<i>Maid Marian</i>	5 8 3	
<i>Doreen</i>	5 13 43	
<i>Chanticleer</i>	5 15 10	
<i>Erica</i>	5 15 44	
	SECOND CLASS.	
<i>Meteor</i>	4 44 55	10
<i>Payne</i>	5 20 29	4
<i>Sybil</i>	5 22 8	1
<i>Ladybird</i>	5 27 6	

The officers of the Royal Navy have kindly presented two prizes (1st and 2nd) to be sailed for to-day, the 12th inst., starting at 2 p.m. Open to yachts belonging to members of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club, to be steered by ladies. Handicap as below, except that yachts steered by girls who wear their hair down on ordinary service will receive 20 secs. per mile in addition.

COURSE.

Start from a line between H.M.S. *Barfleur* and *Endymion*, round Meyer's East Buoy (port), South Buoy on shoal in Hunghom Bay (port) H.M.S. *Endymion* (starboard) South Buoy on shoal in Hunghom Bay (starboard), Meyer's East Buoy (starboard), and finish across starting line. Distance 7½ miles.

Should the wind be light the yachts will be stopped at the end of the first round, at the discretion of the naval officer superintending.

Yacht-owners intending to compete must send the names of their ladies to Major Koe, Hon. Sec., at the A.S.C. Office, Fetcher Street, before 10 a.m. on Saturday.

HANDICAP.

<i>Marjorie</i> allows	<i>Gloria</i>	} 4 min.
	<i>Doreen</i>	
<i>Alannah</i>	<i>Active</i>	5 min.
<i>Iris</i>	<i>Dart</i>	6½ min.
<i>Bonito</i>	<i>Ladybird</i>	} 7½ min.
<i>Maid Marian</i>	<i>Payne</i>	
<i>Erica</i>	<i>Sybil</i>	} 10½ min.
<i>Chanticleer</i>	<i>Sayonara</i>	
<i>Meteor</i>	<i>Thistle</i>	11½ min.

A Calcutta telegram of the 18th ult. states that the hospital-ship *Gwalior* and the Maharajah Scindia have returned thither from China. The Maharajah of Bikanir landed at Calcutta from Hongkong on December 18th from the troopship *Wardha* and received a warm welcome from the Marwaris. Lord Suffolk represented H.E. the Viceroy, and the 2nd Madras Infantry furnished an escort.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

FIELD BATTERY.

The second competition for the new class prizes took place at the Association Range, Kowloon, last Sunday, 6th inst. The following are the three best scores in each class:—

"A" CLASS.

	200. yds.	400. yds.	500. yds.	Net Total.
Gr. D. Baldwin	30	34	29	93
Sgt. W. Stewart	27	32	27	86
Lt. Mossop	26	26	30	82

"B" CLASS.

Gr. T. Fisher	25	26	22	73
Gr. A. E. Channett	18	31	23	72
Gr. A. A. Alves	24	26	22	72

"C" CLASS AND RECRUITS.

Gr. Abraham	20	31	31	82
Gr. Duncan	27	31	24	82
Gr. H. Sutton	21	15	4	40

SHOOTING COMPETITION.

The return match between "C" Machine Gun Company and the Dock Detachment of the Field Battery came off at Kowloon on the 30th ult. and resulted in the tables being turned, as the Dock Detachment won by 47 points; they showing much better form than on the previous occasion. The conditions were 10 men aside and ranges 200, 400, and 500 yds. "C" Company were beaten at every range. The refreshments were provided by the losers. Only 9 men fired, as the Dock Detachment were one short. "C" Company's aggregate was 679, and the Dock Detachment's 726.

INTERPORT SHOOTING MATCH.

SINGAPORE SCORES.

The scores of the Singapore team, who fired off on the 29th ult. in the interport match v. Hongkong and Shanghai, were:—

	200 yds.	400 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Gunner C. M. Phillips, S.V.A.	32	34	34	100
Bhagwan Din, M.N.I.	33	34	31	98
Gunner Flanagan, S.V.A.	31	32	33	95
Mohammed Musah, M.N.I.	31	32	29	92
Lieut. Vesey, R.E.	33	30	27	90
Lieut. Magrath, M.N.I.	28	28	32	88
Sgt. Major Mugliston, S.V.A.	26	34	28	88
Capt. St. Clair, S.V.A.	31	29	27	87
Sergt. Aschmann, S.V.R.	30	31	25	86
Abdul K. Khan, M.N.I.	31	33	21	85

306 317 286 909

Average 30.6 31.7 28.6 90.9

The umpires were: for Singapore, Major Dunman, V.D.; for Hongkong, Captain Lyne, 16th M.N.I.; for Shanghai, Lieut. Wildes, 16th M.N.I.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR JANUARY.

Several excellent cards were returned, in spite of the keenness of the greens. The winner showed fine form throughout the meeting, and fully deserved his double success.

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

Mr. E. F. Mackay	85	9	76
Mr. E. J. Grist	94	15	79
Mr. R. L. Richardson	97	18	79
Mr. H. W. Robertson	92	10	82
Mr. T. S. Forrest	82	0	82
Mr. G. B. Thornhill	102	18	84
Mr. W. J. Gresson	100	16	84
Lt. R. E. E. Kriekenbeek	102	14	88

(20 entries.)

POOL.

Mr. E. P. Mackay	86	0	77
Mr. R. L. Richardson	97	18	79
Mr. E. J. Grist	94	15	79
Lieut. L. MacLachlan	97	16	81
Mr. T. S. Forrest	82	0	82
Lieut. A. J. M. Grieve	87	2	85

(16 entries.)

The quarterly meeting for the MacEwen Cup commences on Friday next and ends on the following Monday, when it is to be hoped that a good field will turn out for the various competitions.

HONGKONG CHESS CLUB.

A match was played on Thursday evening at the Club between teams representing England and the Rest of the World. The following was the score:—

ENGLAND	REST OF WORLD	
P. W. Sergeant	1 P. C. de Souza	0
H. E. Pollock	1 C. A. M. de Jesus	0
Lt. Col. The O'Gorman	1 M. J. Dannenberg	0
F. G. Hendley	1 Dastur	0
G. M. Discombe	1 C. E. Ellis	0
	5	0

England thus won by 5 games to nil. Mr. T. H. Reid also played and won his game, but his opponent was found to be have been wrongfully included in the "Rest."

The Hon. Sec. informs us that Mr. P. W. Sergeant has succeeded in winning the Club's Championship Cup from Mr. H. E. Pollock, Q.C., who has been the holder for some months past, defeating his opponent, by two games to love. Mr. Sergeant, as the holder of the Cup, is now liable to be challenged in turn.

The first round of the club handicap for the cup presented by Mr. H. E. Pollock has been drawn as follows:—

Grant v. Hendley, de Jesus v. Discombe, Dannenberg v. Sergeant, Pollock v. de Souza, Tate v. Burrell, Reid v. Dastur, C. E. Ellis v. Moses, O'Gorman v. — Ellis.

FOOCHOW.

The following notes are taken from the *Foochow Daily Echo* of the 29th ult.:—

H.M.S. *Mohawk* left Pagoda on the 27th inst. under orders for home. She was to drop down to Sharp Peak and go to sea the following day for gun practice, but not leave the port finally until the arrival of the *Britomart*.

The Venerable Archdeacon Wolfe, having so far recovered from a somewhat serious illness as to be able to travel, left on Monday last per s.s. *Hsing Yu* for Shanghai en route for America. He was accompanied by Mrs. Wolfe and their youngest daughter. We understand that he is to be absent eight months, at the end of which time we trust we may see him back thoroughly restored to health and strength to resume his work.

The hockey match of last Saturday, "the Ladies of Foochow" v. "Boys under sixteen" attracted a great many on-lookers, in spite of the cold wind blowing at the time. The quickness of some of the smallest of the "Boy" team fairly non-plussed the ladies and obliged them to use their utmost exertions to hold their own at all. The skirts of the fair ones appeared to be terribly in the way. A lady bearing down on a little fellow, who momentarily had the ball all to himself, fairly enveloped him with her skirt and by the time he was unwound the ball was at the other end of the ground. It was a fast and exciting game and ended in each side scoring a goal.

Beyond what we have read in the papers about the siege of Peking, we have had the opportunity of late of learning the personal experiences of some of the besieged. First, we had Mr. Von Rautenfeld, Deputy Commissioner of Customs, and we have now with us Mr. Clarke Thornhill, of the Diplomatic Service, and Miss Lambert, the lady nurse of the hospital connected with the Legation. It will appear to most of those who have listened to them, we think, that the outside world was far more apprehensive of their impending danger than they were themselves. . . . We rejoiced to notice that they were not, as we expected to see them, but shadows of their former selves: horse and mule flesh evidently cannot be unwholesome.

The Rev. G. S. Miner of the Methodist Episcopal Mission left with his family on Thursday last per s.s. *Akashi Maru* on twelve months' furlough. Mr. Miner had worked well in the interests of his Mission for nine years without a change and is well entitled to a spell of rest. Of late years he had been inspector of schools and had, we understand, no less than 230, scattered about in the district, under his supervision. His two young sons will be missed in our games of hockey.

In the *Foochow Daily Echo* of the 5th January are the following items:—A considerable area of land including the foreshore has

been purchased by some Japanese at Pagoda, just below the Imperial Chinese Dock.—The news of Mr. E. D. H. Fraser's name being included in the New Year honours was received here with general satisfaction. The s.s. *Hain Yu*, which left yesterday for the North, will have carried many letters of hearty congratulations to Hankow from members of this community.—We learn that the China Mutual S. N. Co., Ltd., is to be reconstituted.

WATER RETURN.

LEVEL AND STORAGE OF WATER IN RESERVOIRS ON THE 1ST JANUARY.

	LEVEL.	1900.	1901.
		below overflow.	below overflow.
Tytam	12 ft. 9 in.	14 ft. 2 in.	
Pokfulam	9 ft. 8 in.	4 ft. 10 in.	
Wongnaicheong	45 ft. 3 in.	19 ft. 7 in.	
	STORAGE GALLONS.		
	1900.	1901.	
Tytam	285,190,000	275,260,000	
Pokfulam	44,960,000	55,500,000	
Wongnaicheong	Empty	10,160,000	
Total	330,150,000	340,920,000	

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND HILL DISTRICT DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER.

	1899.	1900.
Consumption	101,016,000	109,494,000 gallons
Estimated population	203,500	209,500
Consumption per head per day	16	16.8 gallons

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN KOWLOON PENINSULA DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER.

	1899.	1900.
Consumption	8,273,000	9,953,000 gallons
Estimated population	27,600	28,800
Consumption per head per day	9.67	11.1 gallons

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

R. D. ORMSBY,
Water Authority.

HONGKONG.

The damage by the fire in a godown at Quarry Bay, near the Taikoo Sugar Refinery, is estimated at something like \$18,000, and is not covered by insurance.

The return of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week shows that 348 non-Chinese and 190 Chinese visited the former institution, 148 non-Chinese and 2,039 Chinese the latter.

The British cruiser *Brisk* and gunboat *Peacock* arrived on the 8th inst. from Manila and Woosung respectively, and the German cruiser *Kaiserin Augusta* and the Russian cruiser *Razbonik* departed for Amoy and Singapore respectively.

At the Siege Train Bullock Lines at Kowloon on the 7th inst., Messrs. Hughes and Hough offered for sale by auction ten bullocks. All were sold, though the prices realised appear to have been any thing but large, the total amount being \$479. The highest price fetched by one animal was \$71, the others being disposed for sums varying from \$40 to \$49. Mr. A. H. Rennie bought one of the animals, Chinese being the purchasers of the others.

Alice Callaghan, formerly a barmaid at Thomas's Grill Rooms, on the 5th inst. at the Metropole Hotel made two attempts to take her own life. Early in the afternoon of that day she was frustrated by the hotel servants in an attempt to cut her throat with a razor. The weapon was taken from her and a watch set on the woman's movements. About six o'clock, however, she stole unobserved to the verandah of the hotel, and jumped to the ground—a distance of some twenty-five feet. Chief Detective Inspector Hanson and Inspectors McNab and Robertson witnessed the act, and examined the woman. Her fall had been broken by a pigeon coop, and the only injury was a slight one in the small of the back. The would-be suicide was removed to the Government Civil Hospital, thence, after being medically treated, to the asylum, she having been certified to be mentally deranged.

Mr. G. H. Wakeham has been appointed a Justice of the Peace for this colony.

Apart from the two plague cases last week there were no cases of communicable disease in the colony.

From the 1st instant no dogs from Shanghai are permitted to land in Hongkong for a period of four months.

The U.S. gunboat *Bennington* arrived on the 6th inst. from Manila. On the 5th inst. the Portuguese cruiser *Adamastor* returned to Macao.

As the result of two hockey matches, the Indian Brigade has defeated the H.K.H.C. by 4 goals to 2 and the Royal Navy by 4 goals to 1.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:—Li Chin Fan, \$50.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, Q.C., the Hon. Treasurer of the Seamen's Church and Mission Fund, acknowledges with thanks the receipt of a subscription of \$10 from Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs.

The Mother Superior of the Italian Convent begs to acknowledge the receipt of the following sums:—

A Friend	\$50
D. Conklin	10
Mrs. Haaslop	10

The U.S. gunboat *Bennington*, which arrived here on the 6th inst. from Manila, goes into dry dock for a complete overhauling. She has been cruising in Eastern waters for the past eight or ten years, and this is the first time she has had to have a complete going over, which speaks well for her builders. In this length of time the ship has cruised about 100,000 miles.

Those who are interested in the "mosquito and malaria" question—and judging by recent discussions and letters they are not a few—will be glad to hear that we understand that the Government contemplates having a special bacteriologist sent here and that a laboratory is to be built. We do not know that the expert will confine his attention to the much vexed question whether malaria can be contracted by other means than by the bite of the anopheles.

It is intimated that the Board of Directors of the Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd., have decided, subject to audit, to pay a final dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital of \$5,000,000, in addition to the interim dividend already paid, which was at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum on the paid up capital of \$2,500,000, and to place \$500,000 to the Equalisation of Dividend Fund, carrying forward a balance of \$40,151.01 to new Profit and Loss Account.

The *Bali*, one of the gunboats being built by the Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd., to the order of the Siamese Government, was put through her speed trial on Tuesday. Mr. Jonsen, Chief Engineer to the Siamese Government, and Captain Andersen, Superintendent of Naval Ordnance in Siam, represented that Government on board, and declared themselves fully satisfied with the results of the trial. The *Bali*, which registered a speed of 11.4 knots, is leaving here to-day for Siam.

As there appears to be no need for the services of the fifty or more reserve men now with the Siege Train at Kowloon, they have requested their commanding officer to communicate with the War Office with a view to their being sent home. This, we understand, has been done, but up to the present no reply has been received from the home authorities. It is now over twelve months since the men were called out, and they have done service in South Africa as well as in North China. They complain that while barrack-room accommodation can be found for the native troops, they have to remain under canvas, which, in this fitful weather, is not altogether pleasant.

The danger to life and property caused by careless blasting has been again exemplified by an accident which occurred near Robinson Road late on Monday afternoon. Some blasting operations were being carried on on the site of a European house on the hillside. It is supposed that the stone it was sought to dislodge had not been properly covered. At any rate on the explosion taking place some pieces of stone were projected in the air and carried a considerable distance, alighting amidst some earth coolies. One of the latter was struck on the head and sustained a compound fracture of the skull. He was taken to the Hospital, where he died on Tuesday morning.

The Squatters' Board met at the Supreme Court on the 7th inst. for the purpose of deciding claims of squatters in British Kowloon. His Honour Sir John Carrington (Chief Justice) presided, and the other members of the board present were His Honour T. Sercombe Smith (Acting Puisne Judge), the Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works) and Mr. Bruce Shepherd, Deputy Land Officer.

TEA.

	1900-1 lbs.	1899-00 lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	—	—
Amoy	573,270	457,760
Foochow	11,063,284	15,487,359
Canton	—	—
	<hr/> 11,636,554	<hr/> 15,945,119

	1900-1	1899-00
Shanghai	—	—
Amoy	16,063,901	12,845,300
Foochow	10,828,335	7,652,225
	<u>26,892,236</u>	<u>19,997,525</u>

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	35,474,308	25,478,107

	1900-1 lbs.	1899-00 lbs.
Yokohama	23,854,555	25,365,874
Kobe	11,813,617	13,427,117
	<hr/> 35,668,172	<hr/> 38,792,991

	1900-1901 bales.	1899-00 bales.
Shanghai	32,348	57,300
Yokohama	11,418	15,779
	<hr/> 43,766	<hr/> 73,079

	1900-1901 bales.	1899-00 bales.
Shanghai	4,759	11,632
Yokohama	12,061	21,921
	<hr/> 16,820	<hr/> 33,553

HONGKONG, 11th January.—Still there have been no arrivals. No sales.

Sheklong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.15 to	\$8.20	per
do, " 2, White.....	7.05 to	7.10	"
Sheklong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.15 to	5.20	"
do, " 2, Brown ...	5.05 to	5.10	"
Ewatow, No. 1, White.....	8.05 to	8.10	"
do, " 1, White.....	7.00 to	7.05	"
Ewatow, No. 1, Brown ...	5.05 to	5.10	"
do, " 2, Brown ...	4.95 to	5.00	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.10 to	12.15	"
Shakloong "	10.80 to	10.85	"

Per steamer *Aragonia*, sailed on the 25th December. For Havre:—1 case sundries, 5 boxes feathers, 8 cases human hair, 50 cases staraniseed, 76 cases Chinaware, 248 bales canes. For Havre and/or Marseilles:—32 b'dls goat-skins. For Havre and or Hamburg:—4 cases preserves, 5 cases Chinaware, 25 cases human hair, 50 cases staraniseed, 102 rolls mats. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London:—25 cases bristles, 29 cases camphor. For Hamburg:—2 cases pictures, 2 casks soy, 4 cases tea, 10 cases essential oil, 17 cases human hair, 100 cases camphor, 155 cases crackers, 225 cases staraniseed, 230 bales feathers, 394 bales canes. For Amsterdam:—10 pkgs. tea, 150 casks preserves. For Antwerp:—5 bales cotton, 45 pkgs. canes. For Copenhagen:—360 cases cassia. For London:—10 cases bristles. For Lisbon:—1 case Chinaware.

Per steamer *Calchas*, sailed on the 25th Dec.
For London:—Tea—1,215 boxes—25,515 lbs.
congou, 878 boxes—18,438 lbs. scented caper
37 boxes—777 lbs. scented Or Pekoe, 276
boxes from Amoy, 333 half chests from
Amoy; 7,415 bales hemp. 50 bales waste silk,
475 casks preserves, 2,500 cases preserves, 80 cases
P. L. fans, 56 cases cigars, 52 cases Chinaware,
19 cases blackwoodware, 15 pkgs. sundries, 378
empty drums. For London opt. Manchester :
—100 bales waste silk. For London opt. Glas-
gow:—100 casks ginger. For London opt.
Hamburg:—200 cases staraniseed, 100 bales
rattan shavings, 70 bales canes. For Amster-
dam:—25 boxes cassia

Per steamer *Wittenberg*, sailed on the 30th Dec. For Havre:—10 cases essential oil, 11 boxes feathers, 55 bales canes, 171 rolls mats. For Hamburg:—1 case merchandise, 1 case camphor oil, 9 cases camphor, 100 cases staranised, 100 bales rattanshavings, 103 bales canes.

The steamer *Oceanien*, sailed on the 31st. Dec.
 For Marseilles:—25 bales raw silk, 200 bales
 waste silk, 23 cases silks, 10 cases essential oil,
 56 cases staranised, 4 cases Chinaware, 340
 pkgs. tea. For Lyons:—150 bales raw silk.

HONGKONG, 11th January.—The decline in prices continues, the market being very weak. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.65	to 2.70
" Round, Good quality	2.90	to 2.95
" Long	3.05	to 3.10
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.80	to 2.85
" Garden, No. 1	3.15	to 3.20
" White	3.75	to 3.80
" Fine Cargo	4.10	to 4.15

HONGKONG, 11th January.—Small sales of Japanese at quotations:—

Cardiff.....	\$30.00	sellers ex ship to arrive	
Australian	\$14.00 to \$14.50	ex godown, nominal	
Yubari Lump.....	\$11.00	ex godown, nominal	
Miiki Lump	\$10.		
Moji Lump	\$7.30 to \$9.50	ex ship, steady	
Hongay double screened	10.50	ex godown	} nominal.
Hongay Lump.....	8.50	ex ship	
Hongay Dust	5.50	" "	
Briquettes.....	14.50	ex godown	

HONGKONG, 11th January.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn : 1,050 bales No. 10 at \$88-50 to \$91, 750 bales No. 12 at \$88-50 to \$96, 250 bales No. 16 at \$94 to \$100, 1,000 bales No. 20 at \$98 to \$103. *Grey Shirts :* 6,000 piculs 8½ lbs. Blue Joss 1 at \$3-35, 1,800 pieces 8½ lbs. Red Cock at \$3-05, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Palm Tree at \$4-05, 2,500 pieces 10 lbs. Horse and S. Idier at \$4-50, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$4-40, 3,000 pieces 8½ lbs. Red Cock at \$3-05, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Eagle at \$4-47½, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Urn at \$3-35, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Piano and Sword at \$3-45, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. 3 Butterflies at \$4-50. *White Shirts :* 500 pieces 300 at \$4-12½, 500 pieces 300 at \$4-12½, 500 pieces D 70 at \$4-25, 500 pieces Flower at 5-33, 300 pieces Gold

Tiger at \$7-55, 500 pieces Flower at \$5-02½ 500 pieces 6 at \$5-15, 500 pieces 455 Tree and Elephant at \$6-35, 1,000 pieces Fox and Duck at \$6-15, 2,000 pieces Cat \$6-55, 500 pieces 153 at \$5-35, 2,500 pieces S 88 at \$4-20, 600 pieces 6 at \$5-15, 450 pieces N 1 at \$6-90, 600 pieces N 2 at \$7-33, 1,000 pieces Fox and Duck at \$6-15. *Mexicans*: 1,500 pieces 32 Red Stag at \$2-32½, 600 pieces 36 Red Stag at \$3-12½, 700 pieces 32 Pot Cobble at \$2-62½, 1,200 pieces 36 VV at \$3-32½, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 2 Stags at \$4-35. *White Irishes*: 500 pieces Gold Goose at \$5-05, 500 pieces D 70 at \$4-25. *Scarlet Long Ells*: 125 pieces 8 lbs. Stag at \$6-90, 125 pieces Stag at \$6-90. *Scarlet Camlots*: 100 pieces 9 Birds at \$12-00. *Purple Green*: 125 pieces Stag at \$7-52.

		per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$78.00	to \$100.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00	to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00	to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00	to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00	to 170.00

		per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.15	to 2.25
7 lbs.	2.40	to 2.55
8.4 lbs.	2.90	to 3.60
9 to 10 lbs.	3.70	to 4.50
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.60	to 2.80
58 to 60 „	3.25	to 4.05
64 to 66 „	4.30	to 5.55
Fine	5.20	to 7.90
Book-folds.	4.40	to 6.30
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.78	to 1.60
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.75	to 1.90
7lbs. (32 „), „	2.00	to 2.25
6lbs. (32 „), Mexs.	1.95	to 2.20
7lbs. (32 „), „	2.85	to 3.70
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	2.90	to 3.60
Drills, English—40yds., 14 to } ..	4.25	to 7.10
16 lbs. }		

Turkey Red Shirtings— $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 lbs } 1.55 to 5.00

Brocades—Dyed	—	to	—
		per yard	
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08½	to	0.17
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22½	to	0.60
Velveteens—18 in.	0.20	to	0.22½

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk ^{per dozen} 0.36 to 2.50

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.80	to	1.50
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25	to	2.50
per yard			
Long Ells—Scarlet	6.40	to	10.00
Assorted	6.50	to	10.10
Camlets—Assorted	12.50	to	32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches	8.00	to	20.00
Assorted			
Orleans—Plain	8.50	to	10.00
per piece			
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	4.00	to	18.00
per pair			

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	4.40 to
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)	4.40 to
Swedish Bar	6.00 to
Small Round Rod	4.40 to
Hoop $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 1/2 in.	5.25 to
Wire 15/25	8.50 to
Old Wire Rope	2.50 to
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	10.00 to
Australian	10.00 to
Yellow M'tal—Muntz. 14/20 oz.	39.50 to
Vivian's. 14/20 oz.	39.00 to
Elliot's. 14/20 oz.	39.50 to
Composition Nails	65.00 to
Japan Copper, Slabs	41.00 to
Tin	63.00 to

Tin-Plates	6.00	to	—	per box.
Steel 1 to 4	6.00	to	—	per cwt. case

		per picul	
Quicksilver	155.00	to	—
		per box	
Window Glass	5.25	to	—
		per 10-gal. case	
Kerosene Oil	2.40	to	—

HONGKONG, 11th January.—A fair business has been transacted during the week, the chief features of the market being a further rise in Banks, Lands, Wharves, and China Manilas, and an almost general firmness in other stocks.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been in demand all the week and business has resulted at 349, 350, 352 and 355 per cent prem. for cash and at 363 to 366 per cent. prem. for March; market closes steady at quotation, notwithstanding a drop of £1 on the London rate, which is now £60. Nationals unchanged with a small business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have been placed at \$51 and \$52, closing with buyers at the latter rate. Unions have changed hands at \$245, Cantons at \$145 and Yangtszes at \$110. Straits and North-Chinas continue neglected.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have been in demand and offers to buy at \$297½ and \$300 have met with no response. Market closes at \$305. Chinas have advanced to \$86 after sales at \$81, \$82, and \$84.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao continue steady with fair sales at \$33½. Indos have ruled quiet with small sales at \$101 cash, and at equivalent rates for February and March. Douglases continue on offer at \$47 without inducing buyers to come forward. China Manilas have improved to \$74 for old and \$33 for new shares with limited sales at those rates and at equivalent ones for March and April. China Mutuals have advanced slightly without business. Star Ferry's have advanced to \$19 and \$5 with small sales and Shell Transports have changed hands at £3 4s.

REFINERIES.—No business to report under this heading.

MINING.—Punjoms have advanced to \$4½ after small sales at \$4 10 and \$4 25. Charbonages are obtainable at 330 with no sales to report. Jelebus and Oliver B's have changed hands in small lots at quotations. Raubs continue quiet with no sales.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have steadied up and ruled rather quieter with only small sales at \$587½, closing with sellers. Kowloon Wharves have improved to \$93 with sales. New Amoy Docks are enquired for at \$21½. Wanchais unchanged and without business. This Company has declared a final dividend for 1900 of \$1½.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have further improved to \$205 after sales at \$198, \$200, and \$202 cash, while shares have been placed forward at \$205, \$206, \$208, \$210 and \$211 for March. This Company intimates that it will pay a dividend of \$6 per share on the 25th instant, place \$500,000 to equalisation dividend fund and carry forward \$40,151; market closes at \$205. Hotels have ruled rather weaker with sales at \$123 cash, and at about equivalent rates forward. West Points continue steady at \$51. The directors have decided to pay a dividend (final) of \$1.75. Humphrey's Estates in the early part of the week changed hands at \$11.60 and \$11.75 for cash and at equivalent rates forward; later however the rate suddenly jumped, on the rumour of a 90 cents dividend, to \$12.25 with buyers forward at equivalent rates. Holders however are not anxious to part and not many shares have changed hands.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkongs have changed hands at quotations after a small sale at \$20. Northern Mills are quoted from the latest Shanghai circulars in the absence of local business.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Cements have found buyers in fair quantities at \$19½. Electrics have advanced to \$12½ old and \$8½ new, with small sales. Fenwicks are enquired for at \$57. Tramways have changed hands at \$196, Providents at \$10, and Watkins at \$12½ and \$12½. China Providents propose to pay a dividend of 8 per cent and carry \$25,000 to reserve.

MEMOS.—Ordinary Meeting Wanchai Warehouse Co. on the 14th instant. Transfer books closed to 14th instant. Ordinary Meeting of Hongkong Land, etc. Co., and West Point Building Co. on 24th instant. Transfer books closed from 15th to 24th. Extraordinary Meeting Star Ferry Co. on 15th instant. Ordinary Meeting China Provident, etc. Co. on 16th inst. Transfer books closed from 12th to 16th inst. Dividend 1/- and call of 1/- on Raub's Australian Gold Mining Co. payable on 28th instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID-UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	{ \$368.75, buyers 355 p. ct. prem. = L'don, £60, b'ys
China & Japan, ordy.	24	21.
Do. deferred	21	25 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares		\$27, buyers
B. Shares	28	\$27, buyers
Foun. Shares...	28	\$20.
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	21	\$14.
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20.
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$10, sales
China Sugar	\$100	\$117.
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 5.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 70.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 325, sellers
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Hongkong	\$100	\$15, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$7.
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$58, sales
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$19½, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas	210	\$118, buyers
Hongkong Electric	5	\$12½, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$196, sales
Hk. Steam Water- boat Co., Ld.	15	
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$123, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$176, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$92, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$170, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$87½ p. ct. prem. = \$859.38, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$145, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$86.
China Traders'	\$25	\$52, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$305.
North-China	\$25	Tls. 170, sellers
Straits	\$20	\$1.
Union	\$50	\$245, sales & buys
Yangtsze	\$60	\$110, sales & buys
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$205.
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$12½, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$28, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$50, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$40, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$330, sellers
Gt. Estn. & C'donian ..	\$3	5 cents
Do. Preference	\$1	40 cents, sales
Jelebu	\$5	\$6.30, sales
Queen's Mines Ld....	25c.	7 cents, sellers
Olivers Mines, A....	\$5	\$2.
Do.	\$5	\$1½, sellers
Punjom	\$8	\$4½, sellers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.20, buyers
Raubs	16s. 10d.	\$47, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$21½, buyers
Oriente Hotel Co., Ld.	\$50	\$82½.
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	{ \$74, sellers \$34.
China Mutual Pref.	210	212, buyers
China Ordinary	210	212, buyers
Do.	25	27, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$47, sellers
H., Canton and M....	\$15	\$33½, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	210	\$101.
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	21	23.4s., s. & sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	{ \$19, buyers \$5½, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co....	\$5	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$7½, sellers
Do.	\$10	\$20.
Wanchai Warehouse...	\$37½	\$64, buyers
Watkins, Ld.	\$10	\$12½, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$15½, sellers
Universal Trading Co., Ld.	\$5	\$5½, buyers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra, Limited...	\$500	\$1,500, buyers
La Commercial, Ld....	\$500	\$1,000.
Hensiana, Limited...	\$100	\$105, sales & sellers
La Favorita, Ld.	\$500	\$700.

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 11th January.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/0½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/0½

Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/1
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/1½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/1½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/1½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.80
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.66½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.12
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	50½
Credits, 60 days' sight	51½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	154½
Bank, on demand	154½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	154½
Bank, on demand	154½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72
Private, 30 days' sight	73
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	2 p.c. dis.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	1 p.c. dis.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	124½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	2½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1½ p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	9.58
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	50.
BAR SILVER, per oz.	29½

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON. —Chusan (str.), Rhipeus (str.), Wakasa Maru (str.), Japan (str.), Alcinous (str.), Java (str.).
FOR LIVERPOOL. —Achilles (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES. —Normannia (str.), Norderney (str.), Manche (str.), Siam (str.), Wakasa Maru (str.).
FOR BREMEN. —Preussen (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG. —Sambia (str.), Sibiria (str.), Friburg (str.), Norderney (str.), Siam (str.), Normannia (str.), Silesia (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C. —Goodwin (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI. —Empress of China (str.).
FOR SAN FRANCISCO. —Coptic (str.), Nippon Maru (str.), City of R. de Janeiro (str.).
FOR NEW YORK. —Polar St Jernen (str.), Devon- shire (str.), R. Morroco (ship).
FOR AUSTRALIA. —Yawata Maru (str.), Guthrie (str.).
FOR PORTLAND, O. —Adato (str.), Skarpeno (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST
MAIL.

January—	ARRIVALS.
5, Anping Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.	
5, Anping, British str., from Canton.	
5, China, German str., from Saigon.	
5, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.	
5, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.	
5, Memnon, Dutch str., from Singapore.	
5, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from Kutchinotzu.	
5, Hansa, German str., from Shanghai.	
5, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notsu.	
5, Mogul, British str., from Manila.	
6, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.	
6, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.	
6, Normannia, Danish str., from Mororan.	
6, Bennington, U.S. gunboat, from Manila.	
6, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.	
7, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.	
7, Haiching, British str., from Haiphong.	
7, Etruria, British str., from Hongay.	
7, Orlando, British cruiser, from Woosung.	
7, Brandenburg, German battleship, from Shanghai.	
7, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.	
7, Vipere, French gunboat, from Shanghai.	
7, Glancus, British str., from Liverpool.	
7, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.	
7, Hsinchi, British str., from Wuhu.	
7, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.	
7, Kweilin, British str., from Wuhu.	
7, Penarth, British str., from Woosung.	
7, Wosang, British str., from Canton.	
7, Kumsang, British str., from Singapore.	
8, Ljenshing, British str., from Canton.	

8. Kwanglee, British str., from Canton.
8. Prinzess Irene, Ger. str., from Shanghai.
8. Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
8. Dardanus, British str., from Foochow.
8. Brisk, British cruiser, from Manila.
8. Chiyuen, Amr. str., from Shanghai.
8. Chwnshan, British str., from Bangkok.
8. Peacock, British gunboat, from Woosung.
9. Ningpo, British str., from Chinkiang.
9. Bisagno, Italian str., from Bombay.
9. Else, German str., from Shanghai.
9. Hailong, British str., from Haiphong.
9. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
9. Hitachi Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
9. Silesia, German str., from Singapore.
9. Devonshire, British str., from Amoy.
9. Esang, British str., from Chinkiang.
9. Sallberg, German str., from Haiphong.
9. Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
10. Japan, British str., from Yokohama.
10. Diamante, British str., from Manila.
10. Kiunkiang, British str., from Chinkiang.
10. Mohawk, British cruiser, from Foochow.
10. Benlawers, British str., from Hongay.
10. Hermes, Norwegian str., from Canton.
10. Zenta, Austrian cruiser, from Kobe.
11. Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., from Knotzu.
11. Hamburg, Ger. str., from Bremerhaven.
11. Zafiro, U.S. des.-ves., from Manila.
11. Hong Wan I, Brit. str., from Singapore.
11. Kang Ping, Jap. str., from Canton.

January—DEPARTURES.

5. Bengal, British str., for Europe.
5. Peninsular, British str., for Shanghai.
5. Australian, British str., for Australia.
5. Bergenhus, Norw. str., for San Francisco.
5. Adamastor, Portuguese cr., for Macao.
5. Tallee, German str., for Amoy.
5. Pronto, German str., for Saigon.
5. Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
5. Charterhouse, British str., for Amoy.
5. Hanchow, British str., for Shanghai.
5. Tategami Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
5. Kung Ping, Japanese str., for Canton.
5. Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
6. Quarta, German str., for Singapore.
6. Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
6. Choyssang, British str., for Swatow.
6. Amara, British str., for Yokohama.
6. Thalés, British str., for Swatow.
6. Helios, German str., for Canton.
6. Doric, British str., for San Francisco.
7. Wosang, British str., for Foochow.
7. Kashing, British str., for Shanghai.
7. Anping, British str., for Shanghai.
7. Kaiserin Augusta, German cr., for Amoy.
7. Wilhelmina, Dutch str., for Nagasaki.
8. Razbonik, Russian cruiser, for Singapore.
8. Hikosan Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
8. Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
8. Esmeralda, British str., for Saigon.
8. Kweilin, British str., for Canton.
8. J. Diederichsen, German str., for Hoihow.
8. Phranang, German str., for Hoihow.
8. Hansa, German str., for Canton.
8. Loosok, German str., for Hoihow.
8. Memnon, Dutch str., for Moji.
8. Pax, Dutch str., for Iloilo.
8. Macduff, British str., for Moji.
9. Prinzess Irene, German str., for Europe.
9. Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
9. Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
9. Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
9. Huc, French str., for Kwong-chow-wan.
9. Chiyuen, Amr. str., for Canton.
9. Glaucus, British str., for Shanghai.
9. Dardanus, British str., for London.
9. Lightning, British str., for Calcutta.
9. Kwanglee, British str., for Shanghai.
9. Hoihao, French str., for Pakhoi.
9. Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
9. Taiwan, British str., for Shanghai.
9. Ningpo, British str., for Canton.
10. Else, German str., for Canton.
10. Pakling, British str., for Moji.
10. Lienshing, British str., for Swatow.
10. Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
10. Dumbane, Italian bark, for New Zealand.
10. Emma Luyken, German str., for Shanghai.
11. Zenta, Austrian cruiser, for Bangkok.
11. Taiyuan, British str., for Sydney.
11. Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
11. Helios, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
11. China, German str., for Saigon.
11. Hitachi Maru, Japanese str., for London.
11. Hailong, British str., for Haiphong.
11. Brandenburg, Ger. battleship, for Swatow.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Peninsular*, for Hongkong, from London. Mr. and Mrs. Curwen, Messrs. A. Rogers, A. Phillips, J. Deney, D. A. Andrews, R. Stewart, Phasey, Comdr. Nicholson, Messrs. Rashley, Stewart and H. Boldero, from Marseilles, Messrs. Brooksmith and R. McK. Ross; from Bombay, Messrs. J. M. Mahomed Noor, Kohiar, P. Kapadia and A. Daodji; from Singapore, Mr. L. F. Moses; for Shanghai, from London, Miss Hood, Messrs. A. Pearce, A. Sweet, G. Gilfillan and T. Robertson; from Marseilles, Mr. D. Hay and Mrs. Whittall; from Bombay, Mrs. Ezekiel and two daughters; from Singapore, Mr. A. W. Duncan.

Per *Kumsang*, from Singapore, Pollard's Lilliputian Opera Co.

Per *Chiyuen*, from Shanghai, Miss Banker and Mr. Hoyt.

Per *Prinzess Irene*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Messrs. Cocksedge and Hardern, Mr. and Mrs. Borthwick and child; from Kobe, Messrs. Coles, Jack Young, Ernest, Esposito, G. Pease and Misses Cross; from Nagasaki, Messrs. Mendenhall and Anderson; from Shanghai, Messrs. Horsey, White, Hogg, Smith, Richardson, Lachmann, Capt. Hatsch, Mr. and Mrs. Meek, Mr. and Mrs. Beshford Dean; from Yokohama, for Singapore, Mr. Ernst Szeghy, Baron and Baroness von Ambro, Mrs. Imelda Gapp; for Genoa, Capt. and Mrs. Otley and child, General Major von Hoepfner, Mr. F. Ritter and Mrs. Ross; for Hamburg, Messrs. W. Kegel, L. Wiesowski, Fr. Loepke and Segler; from Kobe, for Singapore, Mr. Mahamed Neah, Mr. and Mrs. Geldermann; for Colombo, Mr. Chr. Brenner; for Naples, Miss Lewiss; for Genoa, Dr. Kempt, Messrs. Mitsui, Hadano, Isabe and Fulinsberg; for Southampton, Mr. Seki; from Nagasaki, for Singapore, Messrs. Steeler and Wagner; for Port Said, Messrs. Coll. Rat, Gromyka, Dr. Karogas, Messrs. Matzke-witsch, Surmeneff, Ustimenko, Dr. Guvenius, Dr. Ferzian, Lieuts. Stapelberg, Sanoga, Sadorin, Dr. Dmitrefsky, Messrs. Donetz, Guida and Filipoff; for Naples, Lieut. Papa Ferodoff, Messrs. Ballogh and Skulski; for Genoa, Messrs. von Schewe, Flug, Borishoff, Makowsky, Golowin, Dr. Knadnitzky, Lieut. and Mrs. Berg, Mr. and Mrs. Worobjeff, Mrs. Sachs and child; for Hamburg, Messrs. Roesel, Eppendorf, Nowack, Wegener and Wolf; from Shanghai, for Singapore, Mr. J. Ellison; for Penang, Miss Jamieson; for Suez, Prince and Princess Och-timsky; for Naples, Messrs. Luigi Amato, Giacinto Amato; for Genoa, Messrs. Evreinow, Muirhead, Weillschott, Mietzchke, Lyman, Gattringer, Lietke, Mr. and Mrs. Rotkin, Mr. and Mrs. Green and children, Mr. and Mrs. Griffith and child; for Southampton, Mr. Burnett, Mr. and Mrs. Cornaby and children and Miss Mitchell; for Hamburg, Messrs. Glaess, Yung, Wetzel, Hartmann, Spitz, Goertler and Dreising.

Per *Hitachi Maru*, from Moji, Messrs. E. B. Webster and B. S. Glenn.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Messrs. Peal, Clark Thornhill, and Dr. H. M. Rees.

Per *Diamante*, from Manila, Messrs. Wada, Upton, McCane and A. Hert, Misses Harrison, Brown and Demeray, Capt. and Mrs. Butts, U.S.A., Messrs. W. Reynell and Tayaysima.

Per *Japan*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Messrs. Palmer and W. R. Yule and Mrs. Blechyndon; for London, from Shanghai, Miss Brazier, Surgeon W. Keith, R.N., Mrs. Conner, Master Conner, Messrs. G. Kemp, J. Wilmott, F. Manthorp, W. Ovenden, W. Ashman, F. Cudbertson, Stephen Bower, W. Ogilvie, H. Pattle, W. Houghton, T. Kemp, J. Copland, J. Bond, T. Holmes, H. Smith, G. Thomas and J. Mortimer; from Yokohama, Capt. C. C. Talbot, Mrs. Talbot and infant and Mr. J. Showell Plant; from Kobe, Mrs. and Miss Smithers.

DEPARTED.

Per *Perla*, for Manila, Lieut. R. C. Berkeley, Messrs. E. E. Hill and F. Stahl, Capt. T. R. Marshall, Messrs. Thos. Franklin and G. C. McQuaid, Mr. A. Martin, Messrs. W. F. Goad and C. A. Scott, Mrs. Thomas, Messrs. T. Bloc and Brewster Cameron, Capt. Reid, U.S.M.C., Messrs. Paul Pellick, G. Cook, H. Mannheim, S. M. Berger, F. Moran, Mrs. Barr, Messrs. J. Godchaux and M. Tianco.

Per *Bengal*, from Hongkong, for Penang, Mr. H. Wolferstan and Miss St. Aubyn; for

Colombo, Mr. E. and Miss C. M. Knight; for Bombay, Mr. P. M. Velvan; for Brindlai, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Seely; for Marseilles, Right Rev. C. Corfe; for London, Comdr. Reyes, R.N., Privates Dean, Jones and Smith, Dr. and Mrs. F. R. Day, Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Field, Capt. Chalmers, 5th I.H.C., Mr. George Hill, R.N., Capt. Granville, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. Hardcastle and Mr. G. H. Pinchard; from Shanghai, for London, Messrs. W. T. and J. L. Davis.

Per *Peninsular*, from Bombay, for Shanghai, Mrs. Ezekiel and two daughters; from London, Miss Hood, Messrs. A. Pearce, A. Sweet, G. Gilfillan and T. Robertson; from Marseilles, Mr. D. Hay, and Mrs. Whittall; from Singapore, Mr. A. W. Duncan; from Hongkong, Rev. K. Jaques, Miss Arnold, Mr. and Mrs. Geller, Messrs. Charles Crane, S. Arakwan, C. B. Kohrar, Joseph Morris, Bernard and Engel.

Per *Doric*, for Shanghai, Messrs. A. C. van Nierop, S. Moosa, Mrs. C. M. Carter, and infant, Miss C. Carter, Mrs. Ball, Mrs. E. F. Harris, Miss M. Harris, Miss J. Ellison and Mr. F. S. Saunders; for Kobe, Mr. Tsuchihashi; for Nagasaki, Lieut. Comdr. J. K. Barton; for San Francisco, Mrs. A. Q. Center, Mr. B. J. H. Hopkins, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Leon and infant, Master Leon and Mr. H. H. Tayler; for London, Dr. T. M. Young and Major C. W. Riley; for Amoy, Mr. and Mrs. R. Wildman, Master R. Wildman, jun., Mr. G. Brutton, Lieut. Wm. Wright, Mr. A. W. Bain, Lieuts. R. B. Johnson and F. J. Wolinger.

Per *Loongmoon*, for Shanghai, Mrs. Mary Mometor, Mrs. Goldstein, Miss Mary Demetri, Dr. Presuhn, Messrs. M. Goldstein, Clitherow and John Demetri.

Per *Prinzess Irene*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Pauling, Miss Bather and Miss Byrne; for Colombo, Mr. Hadern; for Port Said, Mr. A. Schramm; for Genoa, Consul Dr. Reeloff, Mr. Hanison, Rev. P. Maria and Mr. J. Hendriks; for London, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. C. Jones and child, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Conrad and Miss F. Conrad; from Japan, for Singapore, Baron and Baroness Ambro and child, Mr. and Mrs. Geldermann, Messrs. E. Szeghy, Steller, E. Wagner and M. Meak; for Colombo, Mr. Chr. Bremer; for Port Said, Messrs. O. Guida, Rath Gronezka, General Filipoff, Lieut. Filipoff, Dr. Karogas, Lieut. Matzke-witsch, Lieut. Surmeneff, Capt. Ustunenko, Dr. R. Guvenius, Dr. Terzian, Lieut. Stapelberg, Lieut. Sanoga, Lieut. Sadorien, Dr. Dan-trefsky, Mr. Donetz, Mr. and Mrs. Malchick, and Mr. Schalopugini; for Naples, Miss Lewis, Lieut. P. Fedoroff, Lieut. Ballogh and Lieut. Skulski; for Genoa, Capt. and Mrs. Otley, Major-General von Hopfner, Mrs. Wm. Ross, Lieut. and Mrs. Berg, Dr. Kempte, Messrs. F. Ritter, T. Mitsui, S. Hadano, E. von Schewe, Flug, Bonisoff, Makowsky, W. Juliusberg, N. Jacobs, Lieut. Golowin and Mrs. Sachs and child, Mr. and Mrs. Worobjeff and child and Dr. Knadmtzky; for London, Mr. S. Seki; for Hamburg, Messrs. W. Kegel, L. Wiesowski, F. Loepke, Segler, Roesel, Clemens, Eppendorf, Nowack, Wegener and Wolff; from Shanghai, for Singapore, Mr. J. Ellison; for Penang, Miss Jamieson; for Suez, Messrs. Ochtimsky (two); for Naples, Messrs. Luigi Amato, Giacinto Amato; for Genoa, Messrs. B. Evreinow, Muirhead, Mr. and Mrs. Botkin, Mr. and Mrs. Green, Miss Gregg, Mr. and Mrs. Griffith and child, Messrs. C. R. Lyman, Gattringer, Ledek and Meetzchke; for Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. Cornaby and child, Messrs. Burnett and J. Clements and Miss Mitchell; for Hamburg, Messrs. Glass, F. Young, A. Kruse, F. Voss, H. Weitzel, Hartmann, Spitz, H. Goertler and Deising.

Per *Hitachi Maru*, for Marseilles, &c., Messrs. W. von Uffell, J. G. Upton, Miss A. Harding, Mrs. Crisp and infant, Miss Averill, Mrs. Shephard, Mr. and Mrs. Batchelor, Messrs. A. G. Luders, S. Oichi, Y. Susaki, I. Sugi and R. Kurata.

Per *Loongsang*, for Manila, Mr. I. Donelan, Capt. C. S. Hatch, U.S.M.C., Messrs. W. F. McLaughlin, B. A. Green, E. B. Webster, Mrs. E. Wilson and infant, Messrs. H. B. Carter, E. M. O'Brien, W. A. Cruickshank, Mr. and Mrs. K. Watanabe, Mr. and Mrs. S. Matubara.

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